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magazine



## Vandals or Da Vincis?

Young Graffiti Artists Get  
What's Coming To Them:  
Skills And Support 24



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AND YOU  
ARE...?

TIANNA GERHARDT  
Owner, Urban Shock (10324 82 Ave)

There aren't many urban/hip hop stores in Edmonton. How'd yours come about? I went to New York five or six years ago, and I got the idea from seeing how cheap everything is out there, and how plentiful it is. It's what everyone wants, but we can't get it. I sat on it, and then I had my son, and I had to figure out how to take care of him and be with him. I didn't want to throw him in daycare. So this is what I came up with. Used my baby bonus to start, started the whole thing on \$1,700. I used my mom's air miles to get a ticket to New York again [to buy clothes]. At first I was selling at a flea market, but then my friends who owned the Homegrown Soul Shack had the space here and we split it in half. We initially had a barber in back—like, an urban barber. But that didn't really work out—they were never on time. So now we

have a tattoo artist.

What do you look for on your shopping expeditions?

Whatever I can find for a good price that's not a bootleg. I learned that lesson the first time—I thought I was getting a really good deal. You can really barter out there, so if I buy wholesale—say, if I buy six, I get a deal, a dozen, a better deal still. Whereas if I order online, it's all a fixed price. And you can't mix and match—you have to get the same styles, etc.... This way I get a real mix. And I can cater to the regulars, and I can keep them in mind when I'm buying.

What do you think of the fashion scene here in Edmonton?

I think we're coming along, but we don't have a very big hip hop scene here in the first place, and the one we do have is kind of

underground. The local artists aren't very well-known. So my clothes fill a niche.

How do you balance the store and family? It is family. My brother Nathan, he also works in the store, he's like a part-owner. He's a huge help. After school, of course, I have the baby, so I need the help. He's 16, but if it weren't for him there'd be no store. I'd just be a cranky mom.

How would you describe your own style?

Well, now that I'm a mom, that's not a very fair question. Whatever he won't mess up! No, I'm pretty casual, I like the brands, but I mix it up. I'm a little unique that way. I'm very my own way—if it feels good, I'll wear it.

MATTHEW HALLIDAY  
PHOTO BY MERYL LAWTON

**SEE**  
magazine

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### GOD'S CREATIVE WORK

I recently picked up a copy of SEE Magazine at our local library and was interested in the cover story about "the Pill" [Time to crush the Pill? Issue #713, July 26-August 1]. I have spent many years researching "the Pill" and have always been wary of using the products because of all the side effects. I firmly believe with the story that all women have a right to know about the unique timing in their bodies and be free of artificial replacements of their natural systems. I commend the writer and this magazine for pur-

way but a way to be open to God's creative powers within a marriage to create a new life. Using a natural method of times of fertility and non-fertility allows for God's creative work but also requires discipline on the part of the partners. In the past, the rhythm method was the only natural way known so it was often used by Catholic families. It is misleading to say it was Catholic-endorsed.

In the past 30 years, new natural family planning methods, like the Billings, Serena and Creighton method have incorporated charting. Many Catholic families nowadays use these methods. Fertility Awareness is identical to those methods and not more exact than Billings, Serena or Creighton. The Billings were both doctors in Australia and first brought the knowledge of women's fertility patterns to North America. Their ideas were embraced by many Catholic families and I am grateful to see them extending into the secular world.

Since Fertility Awareness is based on the works of Billings and the like, perhaps a bit more research could have been put into these NFP methods. Also, a bit more fact could have been used in talking of the Catholic Church and NFP, as without many Catholic families promoting these methods against the cultural stream to use the Pill, this article of fertility awareness may never have come to print.

JUDY KRAMER

suing the topic, as it seems so countercultural. Often we see effects of the women's movement of the '60s going overboard to the point of making women into men, i.e. having no periods. We need to embrace our differences and move together united, equally respected, but not the same.

I was prompted to write, however, for the misleading comment about the Catholic Church and fertility awareness.

Ms. Brunschat writes: "If the words Natural Family Planning leave a bad taste in your mouth, that's probably because of its connection with the Catholic church-endorsed rhythm method, which was once presented as a more 'moral' way of preventing pregnancy than the Pill or condoms."

Natural family planning (NFP) is still presented (not past tense) not as a *more moral*

SEE wants to hear from you. Please send submissions of up to 300 words via fax, email or hard copy. All must include a first name or initial with surname, address, and daytime phone number. Letters may be edited for clarity and brevity. SEE won't publish letters addressed to other publications.

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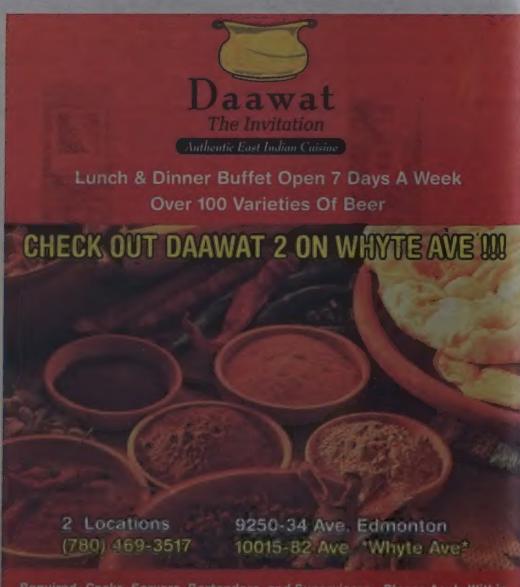
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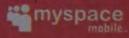
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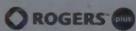
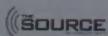


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MONDAY, AUGUST 27 The booths, tents, stalls and assorted bric-à-brac from the Fringe Fest grounds in Old Strathcona are disassembled for another year.

## NEW ALBERTANS=THE ENEMY?

LAST WEEK, STELMACH SPOKESMAN TOM OLSEN BLAMED new Albertans for the premier's nosediving poll numbers. "Hundreds of thousands of new Albertans don't know the history of Progressive Conservative governments," he said.

Now Craig Chandler, a Conservative nominee for the provincial riding of Calgary-Egmont, has summed up his distaste for new Albertans who don't vote the way he'd like them to. On the Project Alberta web forum, which can be found at [www.projectalberta.com/board/viewtopic.php?p=37344](http://www.projectalberta.com/board/viewtopic.php?p=37344), he wrote: "To those of you who have come to our great land from out of province, you need to remember that you came here to our home and we vote conservative. You came here to enjoy our economy, our natural beauty and more. This is our home and if you wish to live here, you must adapt to our rules and our voting patterns, or leave."

## DELICIOUS IRONY

REMEMBER ADSCAM? THE LIBERALSCANDAL WAS THE CROOKED nail in their own corrupt coffin—and a significant reason that they lost the 2006 election. The incoming Conservative government, we were told, would usher in a new era of transparent government.

But of course, they had to convince us of that. With ads. And it turns out that might be where the Cons' own little AdScam starts. The federal Liberals are requesting Parliament investigate whether or not the Conservatives broke election regulations by spending more than \$18.3 million (the legal limit) on

advertising.

Turns out the Conservatives maxed out their federal ad spending limits, then gave \$1.2 million more dollars to candidates in ridings where the local maximum hadn't been spent. Those candidates then immediately returned the money to the federal party, who used it to purchase locally tailored advertising, most likely extolling the unimpeachable virtue of the Conservative Party.

## SONIC YOUTH DETERRENT

APPARENTLY TEENS SHOULD BE NEITHER SEEN NOR heard. A new security device, dubbed the "Mosquito," could soon be chasing anyone under the age of 25 from the street corners outside stores, schoolyards, and other public places.

British company Compound Security Systems invented and manufactured the "ultrasonic youth deterrent," which emits a high-pitched screech that can only be heard by those under 25. Given that teens as young as 13 now hold pre-paid credit cards, the "Mosquito" seems like a counterintuitive step for retailers. But maybe the stores will only turn on the device after the skateboarding, underwear-bearing, tattooed little hellions drop their allowance in the store. Thank you, come again. Now buzz off.



## "THIS SHOWS VERY CLEARLY A ONE-PARTY STATE."

—NDP Edmonton Beverley-Clareview MLA Ray Martin, on the \$200,000 worth of government work contracts awarded to former Tory MLA Bob Maskell between November 2004 and April 2007



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## Keep on busin'

**Civic election: We talk to candidates so you don't have to**

**BUS DRIVER AMARJEET SOHI**'s regular routes take him though the Millwoods area, though the Bonnie Doon Shopping Mall and past the Millwoods Recreation Centre.

That's his home turf, a huge corner of the city that he hopes to represent as councillor for Ward 6. He's lived in the area for over 17 years, coached soccer, served as coordinator for the Punjabi Arts Association, organized community theatre and co-founded the Millwoods Crime

Council.

He ran in the 2004 election, but lost to incumbent councillors Terry Cavanagh and Dave Thiele. This election, however, Cavanagh's retirement leaves room for a challenger.

Amarjeet's platform is filled with detailed ideas that relate to the entire city (such as reining in developers through earlier community consultations and improving the transit service), as well as specific ideas about

reducing crime and the perception of crime in his neighbourhood. But ask him how, practically speaking, he will achieve some of his more grandiose goals (such as getting a chunk of the royalty payments given directly to the city), well, he says that will depend greatly upon his constituents backing him up with the provincial government.

SEE sat down with Sohi to discuss these goals and how he'll achieve them.



**CITY COUNCIL,  
TUESDAY AUGUST 28**

**MAYBE ED GIBBONS HAD IT RIGHT.**

A couple of months ago, the Ward 3 councillor said one of the reasons council was so backed up was that councillors talked a lot in order to get their names in the paper. At the time, it seemed like a silly ploy to... well, get his own name in the paper.

But after sitting through Tuesday's debate over the 23rd Ave interchange at Gateway Boulevard, I'm starting to be swayed by Gibbons'

point of view. Not that council shouldn't have long debates, but those debates should include as little hot air as possible.

After a day of arguing over the project, precious little real opposition materialized against it. Only Ward 4's Michael Phair voted against funding the project and only Linda Sloan voted against asking the province for the money to fund it.

So, the city will pour a small fortune into the interchange (at double the project's original cost). Now it's just a matter of where that \$130 million will come from. Council laid out two ways to get it.

First, ask the province. If Ed Stelmach is receptive, great problem solved. But if Mayor Stephen Mandel's pleas fall on deaf ears, then funding will be pulled from the upcoming Whitemud and Terwillegar Road projects. Of course, the city would then have to find money later on for those projects.

Ward 1 councillor Linda Sloan

was frustrated by this late plea to the province. "We've had years to talk to the province," she said. "The province knows the need."

And if Mandel comes back to council on September 11 with empty hands, that \$130 million will have to come from somewhere. Councillors in older areas were particularly concerned about repurposing money that had been earmarked for revitalizing neighbourhoods. A motion that reinforced spending on repairs to older infrastructure allayed their concerns.

Keep that in mind when the budget comes around in the fall. That discussion won't be brief, either, but hopefully meaningful.

**ANGELA BRUNSCHE**

Approve the additional \$130 million needed to complete the interchange project?

Stephen Mandel

Y

Karen Leibovici

Y

**SEE:** This will be your second run at the city councillor job. Did you pinpoint anything that went wrong last time?

**Amarjeet Sohi:** When I ran the first time, we were up against strong, well-recognized councillors. We didn't feel that there were major changes to be made. It was just a general learning experience that everyone goes through. For me, this is a long-term commitment.

**SEE:** From your perspective as a bus driver, how can ETS improve its service?

**AS:** Our peak hour service is okay, but our non-peak service is really limited. We started building

**"When people feel that their neighbourhoods are not safe, they start to abandon their public places."**

**AMARJEET SOHI**

our LRT system pretty much at the same time as Calgary. Now, Calgary's light rail system is superior to ours. They went out and said, "We will borrow the money. We will build this mass transit then we'll pay it off over the next 20 or 30 years."

I'm happy to see that the LRT is extending to Century Place, but for the people in Ward 6, we were promised LRT 25 years ago. We haven't got it yet... I understand that we have huge financial challenges, but this is a very solid investment that's going to pay dividends. Having less need to pay roads, bridges and interchanges [will save the city].

**SEE:** So you'd advocate borrowing more money to build a better transit system?

**AS:** Which corporation doesn't borrow money to build a capital asset? Why would government be different? We are a big corporation building an asset—LRT. That's an

asset that's going to be used not only by current generations, but future generations. It's only fair that the cost be spread out over different generations. It's not that we are leaving a huge debt to the coming generations; you are also giving them a huge asset that they will use for a long time.

**SEE:** You'd like to increase the number of Neighbourhood Empowerment Teams (NET) to boost community policing. How would you fund them?

**AS:** In some areas, there are repeat service calls for the same problem. When this program comes in, you tackle why those repeat calls [are made]. You are reducing the amount of policing resources needed to respond. It's not costing more. Maybe some upfront costs, but in the long term you are saving. Neighbourhood Empowerment Teams are already part of the EPS budget. It's just a matter of having more emphasis on community-based policing programs like NET.

I strongly believe that crime and the perception of crime go hand in hand. When people feel that their neighbourhoods are not safe, then they start feeling that disconnect from their neighbours and abandon their public places—and that is a welcome sign for more serious criminal activity.

**SEE:** One of your goals is to make school closures a joint municipal-provincial decision. You'd also lobby the provincial government for a share in income taxes and royalties from the oil sands. How are you going to convince the province to share that kind of power and money?

**AS:** It is in the self-interest of the province, and definitely the city, to work together... I think when we are dealing with the province, we really need the support of the people we represent. If you have your community with you and they understand the issue, then you have more influence. Put it this way: the province also has to come back to the people for a renewed mandate. So if you have an informed and engaged citizenry, then it's much easier to convince the province that it's in the best interest of everyone.

**ANGELA BRUNSCHE**

Linda Sloan	Y
Ron Hayter	Y
Kim Krushell	Y
Ed Gibbons	Y
Janice Melnychuk	Y
Jane Batty	Y
Michael Phair	N
Bryan Anderson	Y
Mike Nickel	Y
Terry Cavanagh	Y
Dave Thiele	Y

Jane Batty	Y
Michael Phair	N
Bryan Anderson	Y
Mike Nickel	Y
Terry Cavanagh	Y
Dave Thiele	Y

Delay awarding the project until we get an answer from the province?

Stephen Mandel	Y
Karen Leibovici	Y
Linda Sloan	N
Ron Hayter	Y
Kim Krushell	Y
Ed Gibbons	Y
Janice Melnychuk	Y
Jane Batty	Y
Michael Phair	Y
Bryan Anderson	Y
Mike Nickel	Y
Terry Cavanagh	Y
Dave Thiele	Y

## Last of the summer whiners

### Dog days in this dog-eared city are getting me down

FOR ALL TOO MANY, THIS HAS BEEN A grueling Summer of Boom.

It was unforgivably hot, and the mosquitoes were infuriatingly numerous. Prices worried everyone but the lucky few. Those eager to flip their cynically expensive condos invaded our lines of sight with the first metaphorical tombstones of vast graveyards to come—real estate signs placed in front of each other in a desperate scramble as the house-financing bubble popped, just as it had long been predicted.

Imagine, I ask again, what all these hastily constructed, underbid developments are going to look like in 20 years as they crumble around us. Or should I say with a sigh, around you. Given the peace I'm aiming for, I can't possibly imagine staying here and fighting that long. Wish I could, because this was my favourite city for so, so long.

Our collective municipal mood seems downright frazzled. Spent.

#### HIDDEN NINJA FISH GRIWKOWSKY

garbage cans on Whyte with flashy Doric receipts, while at the same time the bike racks all disappeared amidst some advertising pissing war. If anything, council, can you not replace at least these?

Sometimes it helps to take step back and look at the larger picture. But that doesn't seem to be helping much either. There's a fight brewing between Alberta and the rest of the provinces—we read in casual Maclean's news stories phrases like "but what do with Alberta's surplus" and go ballistic. If the Liberals get elected—and it's not looking hopeful for a Harper or Dion majority, thankfully—the money that will be in power around us will pay, not anywhere enough, for a total tax

heart of a United States facing unprecedented challenges to avoid rotting from the inside as its poor are bankrupted and its south coast cities chewed to pulp, while the nation is attacked from without by its increasingly summoned enemies. Not to mix metaphors.

My own summer was full of joy and adventure, oddly enough—even despite the attempts of some cocksoaper to ruin a recent party by headbutting people for having reacted with unease to his whining attack dog. The police showed up as usual, tried to establish dominance, blamed the victims a little, cited "cans everywhere" on a private lawn as evidence that "this party's out of hand."

When they finally dragged the gorilla to the street in handcuffs, they allowed us to berate the goof as he feigned apology. It was satisfying to calmly explain how he could've lost his dog like he did the respect of all those hot chicks, and how he would lie to his friends the next day about how cool and tough he was, but there's something wrong about even this. Like, isn't explaining all this the *apex* job?

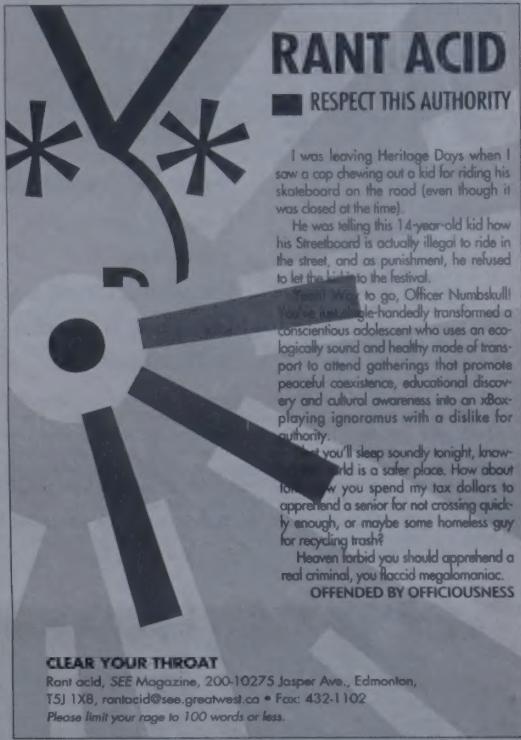
When I got home, my planters were all smashed, completely unrelated.

Violence everywhere, fights for no reason whatsoever, endless echoes of 9/11 and its misfired retaliation. Now a fucking cat serial killer?

What kind of place is this turning into? Just what the fuck is going on with us? Stay calm, I guess. Steady on. But for the first time, I know I'm not going down with this ship.

Pointlessly annoyed. People run stop signs, then give the finger to those they cut off. People totally freak if they have to wait five seconds for the car in front of them to ease on. It was deemed necessary to place public peepie planters on the street and replace the old stucco

#### Our collective municipal mood seems downright frazzled. Spent. Pointlessly annoyed.



#### CLEAR YOUR THROAT

Rant acid, SEE Magazine, 200-10275 Jasper Ave., Edmonton, TSJ 1X8, [rantacid@see.greatwest.ca](mailto:rantacid@see.greatwest.ca) • Fax: 432-1102

Please limit your rage to 100 words or less.

I was leaving Heritage Days when I saw a cop chewing out a kid for riding his skateboard on the road (even though it was closed at the time).

He was telling this 14-year-old kid how his Streetboard is actually illegal to ride in the street, and as punishment, he refused to let the kid into the festival.

Team Work to go, Officer Numbskull! You've single-handedly transformed a conscientious adolescent who uses an ecologically sound and healthy mode of transport to attend gatherings that promote peaceful coexistence, educational discovery and cultural awareness into an xbox-playing ignoramus with a dislike for authority.

But you'll sleep soundly tonight, knowing the world is a safer place. How about for now you spend my tax dollars to apprehend a senior for not crossing quickly enough, or maybe some homeless guy for recycling trash?

Heaven forbid you should apprehend a real criminal, you fiend megalomaniac.

OFFENDED BY OFFICIOUSNESS

Pointlessly annoyed. People run stop signs, then give the finger to those they cut off. People totally freak if they have to wait five seconds for the car in front of them to ease on. It was deemed necessary to place public peepie planters on the street and replace the old stucco

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# food and drink

## That's some dim sum

### Mirama serves delight by the cartload

MIRAMA DINING & LOUNGE  
9341 Jasper Ave., ★★★★☆

FIRST THINGS FIRST: IF YOU LIKE chicken balls in red goo from the mall food court, you won't like Mirama. You probably won't like it if you're Muslim either... But we'll get to that.

Gingie, Hasina, and I were having one of those workdays where I felt like I had the Midas touch, except everything I touched turned to crap instead of gold. I figured if we all went out for lunch, we might come back to the office renewed. And so we marched down Jasper Avenue (in the rain) to Mirama, one of the city's best dim sum restaurants.

The place was packed when we arrived (soaking wet), so we had to wait a few minutes for a table. I think if I were a Grade Nine science teacher giving a lesson on Brownian motion, I'd bring my class to Mirama. Servers and clientele alike roamed around the room in random patterns I didn't understand. It reminded me of how, when I was a kid, we used to watch blank TV channels and follow the black and white static movement of the electrons—a game we called "good guys

and bad guys." (Leave me alone—there wasn't much to do where I grew up.) My fondness for the place grew with every passing second.

Once we were seated, a server was on us immediately, splashing tea about the table. But I say a messy table is the sign of a good meal, and I noted my approval by tapping the

**If I were a science teacher giving a lesson on Brownian motion, I'd bring my class to Mirama.**

pointer and index finger of my right hand on the table three times. (The ancient Chinese custom is to bow three times to thank the spirits who brought the tea to China. After communism, however, people began to covertly tap the table instead. Now it's the accepted custom. And being as wet and cold as I was, I was very thankful indeed for the steaming

cup.)

The first trolley came by with the server barking out her wares in Mandarin. Luckily, Gingie barked back and the server deposited three shrimp cakes on our table. Hasina and I fell on them while Gingie watched. (She doesn't like seafood, but ordered them for us anyway since everything else the server had contained pork, which Hasina, who is Muslim, doesn't eat.) The shrimp cakes were greasy, but they were fresh and the flavours were strongly pronounced and much to my liking. Hasina, on the other hand, was less impressed with them, so I got her share. "Good for me," I thought, until I realized her lack of enthusiasm may have had something to do with the fact that I accidentally double-dipped them in the spicy sauce.

Next came the pork buns, which were again to my liking, but didn't jibe with Hasina's beliefs, so I got her share. Again, good for me. In fact, *damn* good for me. And so the meal continued. As trolley after trolley rolled by, it was apparent that nearly everything had pork or seafood in it, so we passed on dish after dish, until finally Gingie decided to just go ahead and order.

Then the food came on fast and furious. We had mashed taro dumplings with pork (a little mushy, but with a very interesting outside texture); sticky rice in lotus leaves (lo mai gai) with pork filling; rice noodle rolls with beef (a bit soggy and flavourless); sesame-coated sweet buns with red bean filling (burnt the roof of my mouth); and minced pork patties on top of spicy eggplant (damn, damn good for me). But sadly, there wasn't much for Hasina to eat.

As we walked back in the rain, I felt more than content with the experience. The meal cost only \$22 and was one of the best dim sum experiences I've had in Edmonton. It was brilliant! But, as I looked at Hasina under her hoodie fighting the cold and rain, my excitement waned. I'd dragged her out into the rain for a meal she couldn't eat. Now she was late getting back to work, wet, uncomfortable, and still hungry.

I hung my head in shame and looked at my rain-soaked shoes, then said to Gingie, "This may not have been our proudest moment."

I guess I hadn't escaped my reverse Midas touch just yet.

MONTE KRUEGER

## RECOMMENDED

RECENTLY

### DINER

TASTY TOM'S DINER (9965-82 Ave.) Despite the name, it's not a "turkey-only" restaurant. In fact, there's a fairly eclectic menu offering a wide range of diner favourites at OK prices. Tom's is a good choice for a nice summer Sunday brunch on the back patio, or a laid back burger and beer. ★★★★☆ (May 2006)

### CASUAL ELEGANT

BACON (6509 112 Ave.) This great little bohemian-chic restaurant offers a limited choice of familiar(ish) items done with some innovative twists. By pairing locally produced items with some deft hands in the kitchen, they manage to pull off simple organic dishes that are worth remembering. ★★★★★ (Aug 2007)

### ITALIAN

SANTOS PIZZA AND STEAK (10821-95 St.) Excellent place for a lunchtime sandwich in the heart of Edmonton's little Italy. It's not all fancy schmancy and uptight or anything, but then again it isn't all fancy schmancy and uptight. They offer good standard Italian fair, prepared well, at reasonable prices. What's not to like? ★★★★★ (Sept 2006)



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## PIZZA

### FAMOSO NEAPOLITAN PIZZERIA

(11750 Jasper Ave.) If you're interested in good food in fast-food like atmosphere, or are looking for franchise opportunities, look no further than Famoso. They serve authentic Neapolitan pizzas, as per the regulations set out by the Associazione Verace Pizza Napoletana (VPN), in a quick and out fashion. ★★★★☆ (July 2007)

## KOSHER

CAFE LEVI (Europa Boulevard, WEM) You've got to be meshugene if you think there's any better place for falafels in Edmonton. The next time you're at the mall and need a bite, do yourself a favour and give this kosher food counter a try for an orthodox take on traditional mall fare. ★★★★☆ (May 2006)

## SOUTHEAST ASIAN

### BAN THAI (15726-100 Ave.)

Fairly authentic tasting Thai food in... how would I describe the surroundings... maybe fairly authentic as well? At any rate, the dishes are what I imagine really good home cooked food is like in Thailand. A bit pricey though. ★★★★☆ (July 2006)

NINGH KIEU (10708-98 St.) If you're a fan of the venerable Vietnamese noodle soup pho, give the Ninh Kieu a try. Everything about

the place is fairly standard and similar to what you would normally expect from this type of restaurant, except for the pho, which is really quite good. Ok, I guess the green onion cake is pretty good too. ★★★★☆ (Jan 2007)

## CHINESE

NEW TAN TAN (10133-97 St.) If you're an old dim sum veteran, you'll probably be happy enough with the New Tan Tan and its somewhat "rugged" style. But if you're new to this type of service and are looking for a dim sum for dum-dums first time experience, you might want to try someplace a little less... haggard? ★★★★☆ (Oct 2006)

## FINE DINING

MADISON'S GRILL (10053-JASPER AVE.) Without a doubt, Madison's is one of the top restaurants in Edmonton. The warm and comfortable surroundings make this a perfect place for a romantic getaway, or for that special occasion. ★★★★☆ (July 2006)

## HARDWARE GRILL (9698 Jasper Ave.)

Arguably one of the best restaurants in Edmonton. Be warned however, if you go, it's an undertaking. Definitely not the type of place you just pop into with friends on a whim for a light casual meal. Be prepared to fast for at least a week before going, and

hibernate afterwards (portions are way too big and priced accordingly). Definitely a special occasion restaurant. ★★★★☆ (Feb 2007)

## VEGETARIAN

### PADMANADI (10626-97 St.)

Padmanadi offers wonderful Malaysian style vegetarian food at more than reasonable prices. Everything on the menu is vegan friendly, and everyone in the place is friendly to vegans. Or non-vegans for that matter. They're just plain nice. ★★★★☆ (Sept 2006)

## MEXICAN

ACAJUITLA RESTAURANT (11302-107 Ave.) Tacos, pastels, and tostadas, oh my! A variety of dishes—from typical meat and dough-based hand-folded to full-on meals with plenty of rice, refried beans and tortillas. Simple and delicious "home cooking"-style food. ★★★★☆ (Sept 2006)

## CAFÉ

MILL CREEK CAFÉ (9562-82 Ave.) If you're visiting Edmonton and staying downtown, walk south down the stairs at the MacDonald, cross the bridge, and head into Mill Creek ravine. Follow the path, go up the hill at the Mill Creek Pool parking lot and wander right to the Mill Creek Café for a light bite to eat. That way, you'll experience both the great

geography and the small town hospitality we're so proud of. ★★★★☆ (Oct 2006)

## KOREAN

GAYA (111147 87 Ave.) One hot little shik deng. Reasonably priced Korean food in hole-in-the-wall surroundings. Be prepared to wait for a table, and don't expect to linger after you've finished. Well worth it nonetheless. ★★★★☆ (Nov 2006)

## INDIAN

### TANDOORI GRILL EXPRESS & MONTREAL DEJ (6508-75 St.)

Despite the odd menu, these folks are really capable of some fine cuisine. If you go, spend some time chatting with the folks and see if they can prepare any of your favourites. If so, you just might find that you have a new favourite tandoori restaurant in town. ★★★★☆ (Dec 2006)

## MEXICAN

HAWELI (10220-103 St.) Tasty food and excellent naan bread, but be warned—they do a lunch buffet. If that's your thing, this could well be your place. If it's not your thing, I'd say maybe try Haweli for dinner. ★★★★☆ (Feb 2007)

## EUROPEAN

### CONTINENTAL TREAT (10560-82 Ave.)

Definitely not the type of place that hopes to razzle-dazzle you with its creativity as the menu is largely standard (somewhat plain)

classic preparations of Eastern European favourites. It's the type of restaurant that used to set the standard for high-class dining, which can still be a nice treat if you're willing to buy into the type of experience they're offering. ★★★★☆ (Dec 2006)

## HOTEL

HOTEL MACDONALD - CONFEDERATION LOUNGE (10065-100 St.) Wondering what ever happened to the grand old tradition of hotel dining? It's at the Hotel Macdonald. But if you're not up to dropping some large coin on a meal just to have the experience, pop by the Mac's Confederation Room for a glass of wine and a bite to eat. It's a guilty pleasure everyone should experience once in a while. ★★★★☆ (Dec 2006)

## FAMILY

### VICKY'S FAMILY DINING (993 Fir St., Sherwood Park)

The popular spot in Sherwood Park is great for those times when you don't feel like vegetables or fresh foods prepared from scratch. The expensive cuts of meat they use are hard to screw up, so they'll likely be juicy and tender, but that's hardly setting the bar very high. ★★★★☆ (Jan 2007)

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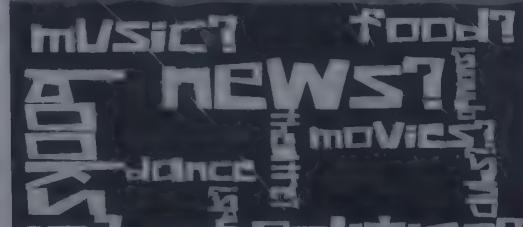
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# in print



IN THE HOUSE OF THE SPIRITS  
David Chariandy stars in a spin-off of the movie based on his best-selling novel.

## The Scarborough succubus

Canadian-Caribbean novelist makes a brutal, astonishing debut

**SOUCOUYANT: A NOVEL OF FORGETTING**  
By David Chariandy. Arsenal Pulp Press.  
220 pp., \$19.95

THE SOUCOUYANT IS ONE SCARY lady. An evil spirit from Caribbean folklore, she's a kind of female vampire or succubus who preys on sleeping men. She disguises herself during the day by wearing the skin of an old woman and living a respectable, if reclusive, life on the edge of town. When night falls, she doffs her disguise and becomes a ball of fire searching for victims. She is decidedly neurotic, unpleasant, and possibly even deadly—just like the history and memory she represents (and represses) in the new book first-time Vancouver novelist

David Chariandy named for her.

No, *Soucouyant* is not a thriller or a Caribbean-themed riff on *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*; it's a quietly undramatic account of a son as he watches his mother go through the final stages of pre-senile dementia, while trying to understand her lost history and his own. Sometimes heartbreaking, sometimes uncomfortably funny, *Soucouyant* is a brilliantly crafted novel that uses both the folklore we inherit and the personal lore we create to unfold the past, the present, and even the future.

Returning to his suburban Scarborough Bluffs home in Ontario after an absence of two years, the unnamed narrator finds his mother in the care of a mysterious young woman. Fighting with his own need to reclaim his past and the realization of "what an impossible feat it is to care for mother," he tells his own memories of childhood and adolescence in the home of first-generation Caribbean-Canadian immigrants. But these memories aren't easy to recall—they're tied to his memories of his mother's memories, as she told them to him, in both factual and fantastic stories of her childhood, World War II, and her emigration to Canada.

One of the most fascinating of these is their shared memory of a trip to her hometown of Carnage, where the narrator met his horribly scarred grandmother. While he remembers only the ugliness of her burns, his mother remembers the old woman blessing him in the sea—something he has, to his shame, forgotten.

In subtly poetic language, rich with unique images and rhythms ("The house has taken on some brutal energy, and the dust motes have turned the slanting moonlight from the window into solid beams. The noise peaks and only then is it clear to me that a freight train is passing"), Chariandy creates a speaking voice for his narrator—*Soucouyant* feels

more like a very private conversation with an inspired talker than a novel.

The peculiarities of the young man's storytelling, inherited from his mother, appear and reappear, giving a unity to what could have been a jumbled collection of memories: stories are begun and never finished, the same stories are retold several times, and there is no strict chronological order to the memories the narrator relates. However, there are repeated phrases, types of metaphors, and lines drawn between them that saves them from being completely haphazard.

Written in nearly operatic but always simple style, the climactic memories that the soucouyant has been hiding only surface at the very end of the novel, when we finally meet the lady herself. For Chariandy, the soucouyant is a way to talk about the past without actually talking about the past. (One of the recurring stories is the time in her youth that the mother saw a soucouyant, a memory which masks the reality of a deeply traumatic experience of colonialism, class, and violence at the core of her and her son's experiences.)

There's no room to breathe or take a break, no way to escape these character's realizations before the final sentence. It could be oppressive if not downright unsatisfying, but it works. Memories aren't always clear, and for Chariandy, how to tell them and what they mean aren't clear either. By slowly layering stories upon stories until he reaches a crucial point of no return, Chariandy has created a breathtaking panorama of two lives and the ways they've shaped each other.

Tight, lonely, expansive, poetic, and distressingly true to the reality of pre-senile dementia, Chariandy's world is brutal, sympathetic, and beautiful.

MICHAEL McNICHOL

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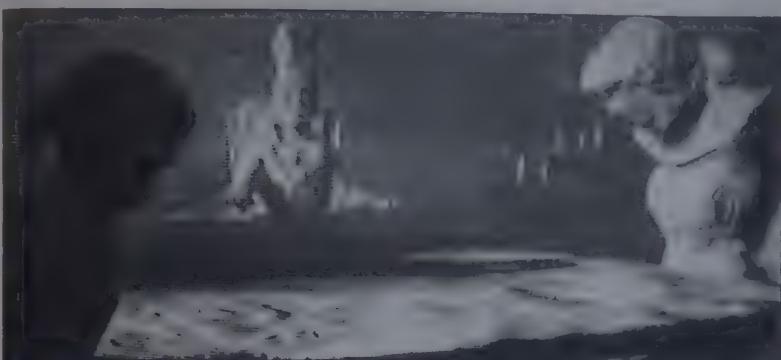
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ALBERTA

# digital



## BioShock: sheer Rapture

This nightmarish tour through a failed utopia is a gaming milestone

THE WATER LEVEL IS RISING. *BioShock*, the groundbreaking new release from 2K Games, pulls us deeper into a more thoughtful, "page"-flipping digital narrative than ever seen. It's the tragedy of Rapture, a beautiful underwater, city-utopia of free-will artists brought together in 1948 by visionary Andrew Ryan, more influenced by Huxley than Orwell. The heartbreak setting is a character in itself, one deeply flawed as it melts to goo a mere 12 years later around you.

You plane-crash at night—not accidentally—on the lonely ocean surface at Rapture's portal, merrily descending through the outside of this staggering, submerged, Art Deco metropolis into its nightmare streets of beauty and horror, Ryan chatty explaining his libertarian dream on film. There's immediate evidence of this dead civilization's collapse, from dropped picket signs to shocking gore outside your elevator window as a Splicer—a genetic-enhancement addict—does her cruel scything. Scarier than most intros, you really need a weapon, quickly.

An amazing one awaits you: Eve, a wrist-injected juice that turns you into an elemental Jedi, the Frankenstein monster of this world where Ryan allowed no moral law to stifle human imagination. Unfortunately, Eve's already worked its addictive charms on the remnant population of the most sympathetic bad guys you'll ever fight. Like eloquent zombies, weeping or cocking at the remains of their moldy lives, the gruesome, often shame-masked Splicers are violently xenophobic living ghosts haunting a claustrophobic world where it's always wavy night outside. With admirable AI, they even fight each other.

There are times as you play this game when you just want to stare outside the pressure windows—or pause in awe at the storytelling, as when you realize the goal of a busted smuggling operation was to bring in Bibles and crucifixes, which Rapture has banned along with welfare and Communism, ideas which force the self into submission.

Piecing together Rapture's mysteries is both empowering and terrifying. Filling up on Eve, you splice into your veins "plasmids"—dozens of varied superpowers that enable everything from fireballs to easier hacking of the ubiquitous vending machines and homemade turrets which help you survive. It's here you embrace the central irony of Ryan's utopia, the yin and

## HOW SOON IS NOW

BY ZOZ

yang of unbridled creativity. Dangerous photography of attacker types, for example, heightens your understanding of them and increases your punch. Abandoned pocket recorders push the narrative along with non-essential but fascinating texture, a diary of what went so wrong. And the pipe-switching mini-game, a metaphor for hacking, complements your eternal companion, the loyal wrench. Though modified shotguns, trap-line crossbow bolts and turning robots and mutant splicers to fight for you works too.

If *BioShock* has a soul, though, it's the symbiotic Little Sister-Big Daddy pairs, who grimly drain corpses for Adam, the building block of plasmids. Your frantic radio guide, an Aussie named Atlas, has no sympathy for them, but after you fight off a monstrous deep-sea diver you're given a choice of what to do with his ward—fatally harvest maximum power or save her from addiction. Conversely, it's crushing to watch a Big Daddy fruitlessly summon a freed Little Sister

from her now-empty portal. Breaking the symbiosis is necessary but painful. He moans like a hopeless whale.

O, the sounds—from the chipper vending machine coos to an unnerving crystal echo of the ice levels, they're matched only in creepiness by one of the level bosses' posing, dressing and plastering of the dead into his sculptures. (After he sends you on a murder mission just to collect photos of the dead, photographing his broken body earns you 10G points for irony. Brilliant.)

*BioShock* is an absolute benchmark game, not only worth its own price, but the cost of an Xbox 360. Calling it a first-person shooter would be an insult; despite its linear plot, it's almost—almost—an RPG. It lives up to the hype in every way save one, namely the widespread slam that it's nothing but a little-girl-murdering simulation. This jab ignores two basic facts: that creepy little kids have been used in horror for generations and, more importantly, that it's more satisfying to free the Little Sisters than to destroy them.

From its intelligent design to its tensely executed narrative, I just can't praise *BioShock* enough.

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# arts

## Admission: impossible

### What's so wrong with the Fringe's new online ticket system?

**1** The Way I Are, Timbaland

**2** Umbrella, Rihanna

**3** Big Girls Don't Cry, Fergie

**4** Buy U A Drank, T-Pain

**5** Summer Love, Justin Timberlake

**6** Don't Matter, Alison

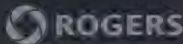
**7** T.I. - Big Things Poppin', T.I.

**8** Paralyzer, Finger Eleven

**9** Girlfriend, Avril Lavigne

**10** Makes Me Wonder, Maroon Five

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IF I HAD A QUARTER FOR EVERY fretful article I read this year about the Fringe Festival's new online ticketing system... well, I'd have \$1.75. And since a cup of coffee costs two bucks, it looks like I'm going to have to write another one myself.

But it sure won't be fretful! As a matter of fact, unlike most members of Edmonton's theatre community (or at least its most vocal constituents), I approve of the online ticketing system and have a hard time understanding why so many people seem to think it's the death knell for the True Fringe Experience.

True, ticket sales were down this year—the Fringe pegs Live and Let Fringe's indoor attendance at 74,536, down from 77,770 in 2006. (And man, would it have killed you people to have bought just seven more tickets last year?) But that dip can just as easily be blamed on the lousy weather (which caused a much more dramatic drop in outdoor attendance, from over 500,000 in 2006 to an estimated 350,000) and the fact that there were 16 fewer shows in the mix this year.

And the shows that were staged

were well-attended: if I may continue to regurgitate the Fringe's press release, audiences apparently snapped up 60 per cent of the available tickets this year, compared to only 51 per cent in 2006.

So, to recap: ticket sales are essentially stable, there are more sold-out shows than ever, more money is going to the artists... so what's with all the bad blood? What is so wrong with a system that lets you know if a show is sold out before you even arrive on the Fringe grounds? A system that makes it even more convenient to pay for your tickets with a credit or debit card? Why are some Fringe artists circulating a petition demanding that the Fringe reinstate ticket sales at the venues?

Well, it's hard to get a straight answer—or at least one that adequately explains the level of anger this issue has aroused. The most common line you hear is that online ticket sales kill the spontaneity of the Fringe experience—the freedom to head off to a play on the spur of the moment. "There was always spontaneity," playwright David Belke told *Vibe Weekly* in an uneasy pre-Fringe interview. "[It was] the kind of interac-

tive festival where you come to the site to wander around and get tickets at the door. You took your chances and didn't plan."

"We want to accommodate patrons who, on relatively short notice, want to attend a performance," agreed former Fringe director David Cheevers in an interview with the *Journal*.

I hate to splash cold water on people's fond memories, but I hardly remember the Fringe as a playground of spontaneity. If I wanted to attend a play with any kind of buzz surrounding it, I would have to compete with dozens of theatregoers who had ruthlessly planned out their Fringe schedules and would line up at the venue hours ahead of time in order to secure their tickets. By the end of the Fringe, I'd have to race through breakfast and show up at the venue by 10 a.m. if I wanted a fighting chance of seeing a noon-hour performance. I agree with Todd Babiak's remarks in Saturday's *Journal*: the end of backstage-inducing two-hour lineups is a development worth celebrating.

And don't try and tell me that the loss of the lineups makes it harder for Fringe artists to promote their plays. As a longtime Fringe patron, standing in line and having flyers pressed into my hands every five minutes is an annoyance I'm not exactly going to miss.

Not that the online ticketing system doesn't have problems. Technical glitches during the Fringe's opening weekend left a bad taste in the mouths of many artists and theatregoers and gave the impression of a system that hadn't been adequately field-tested before its big unveiling—much like those time-strapped Fringe

plays whose first performance feels more like a tech rehearsal.

I'm also no fan of the two-dollar processing surcharge the Fringe now adds to each ticket. It feels like a cash grab, and it's also driven the price of a typical Fringe show up to \$14. If anything is reducing people's willingness to "spontaneously" check out an unknown show, I'd say it's the cost of admission. Sorry, but people shouldn't have to pay more to see an hour-long Fringe show than they would to catch a movie.

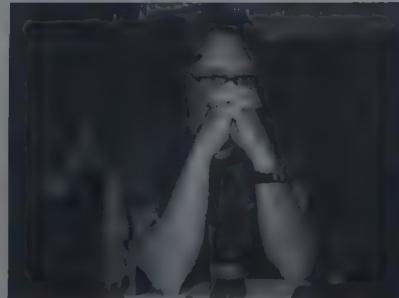
The Fringe is such a wonderful grassroots phenomenon that it's surprising how stubbornly many Fringe artists resist any effort to democratize it. There was a similar uproar, for instance, when the "first come, first served" queue to get your show into the Fringe—a cumbersome procedure that tended to favour an insular group of Fringe veterans—was replaced by a lottery system.

Is the fuss over online tickets any different? Once again, an insular group of Fringe veterans—audience members this time, instead of artists—is fighting to retain a cumbersome ticketing system that, I would suggest, only alienates casual theatregoers, who would much rather buy tickets ahead of time than suss out buzz in the beer tents and then rush to the theatre with two minutes to spare, like a "real" Fringe goer.

The Fringe doesn't put any restrictions on its artists; why should the audiences be bound by outmoded tradition? So they need to plan their playgoing schedule a little more carefully—hell, I never saw a Fringe play that couldn't have benefited from a little more advance preparation either.

PAUL MATWYCHUK

# best wishes Gord!



### Gord Nielsen

This week, *SEE* Magazine bids Gord Nielsen a reluctant farewell. *SEE*'s publisher for the last nine years, Gord has been tireless in his efforts on behalf of the paper. We'll miss his insight, his enthusiasm, and his humour. As he begins his next adventure, we wish him safe travels... and exciting times!

Best wishes,  
The staff of *SEE* Magazine

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THEATRE ALBERTA

## It's a whole *lot* complicated

Art Brut matures from 17 to 18 and a half on their new CD

### UNHAND ME, YOU BRUT!

Eddie Argos relaxes after a grueling interview session with SEE



### ART BRUT

w/ The Mark Birtles Project. Thu, Sept 6 (8pm). The Starlite Room (10030-102 St). Tickets available at Megatunes, Blackbird and Listen Records.

WHILE ART BRUT'S EDDIE ARGOS has often publicly repeated his admiration for both Jonathan Richman and Vincent Van Gogh, the figure that his culturally self-reflexive lyrics brings to mind first is Rob Fleming, the hero of Nick Hornby's *High Fidelity* (or Rob Gordon, as John Cusack's character was named in the movie ver-

wrong to break from your kiss to turn up a good pop song?"

Or you could simply take the fact that the track "borrows" its name from Elvis Costello—just as Gloria Gaynor and John Lennon are tapped up for other titles.

Their moniker (the French term for "outsider art"—i.e., works produced in insane asylums and other places far from the established parameters of the art world) may seem like a bit of stretch when applied to these literate, sardonic British nouveau-punks (think Ian Dury backed by

them most definitely real

Eddie Argos spoke to SEE last week from their hotel room in St. Louis, immediately after one of their famously high-energy concerts. I can't claim to have understood everything the man was saying, but the intelligible parts were damned entertaining.

SEE: In regards to your song "Pump Up the Volume," is a good pop song better than a kiss?

Eddie Argos: They're nice together! [Laughs] But I'd say... sometimes.

SEE: The shuffle function on iTunes can wreck a person's love life.

EA: I think I've got another one as well: "Pump Down the Volume." Sometimes you get really bad music. "Oh, God." You've got to get up and stop it.

SEE: Are you a pop obsessive to that degree, or are you poking fun at the rest of us whose lives have been ruined by pop music? Or at least marred by a bit of arrested development?

EA: No, I'm just like that. It's almost an apology, that song. I did it, but the next day I wrote a

**"I once woke up amongst my records. I hand't been playing them.... I was just on the floor amongst them."**

ART BRUT'S EDDIE ARGOS

sion), whose humourous (mis)understanding of the world comes through his record collection. Take the song "Pump Up the Volume" from the group's sophomore release, *It's a Bit Complicated*, in which Argos asks, "Is it so

Franz Ferdinand as they lay down demo tracks), but considering how true art brut is celebrated for its raw honesty, it seems less of an ironic conceit on Argos' part. If anything, the band's extreme allergy to pretension has kept

song about it

SEE: I like the bit in "Post Soothing Out" where you even admit your thoughts don't resonate with the poetry of "River Deep, Mountain High." It's a dangerous thing. Life can be a letdown compared to the world of song, can't it? That's why so many people are collector recluses—whether it's records, comic books, movies, whatever...

EA: Yeah, once I woke up amongst my records, I hadn't been playing them or anything—I was just on the floor amongst them. I had no idea what I'd been doing.

SEE: Quite a few of the tracks on *It's a Bit Complicated* take a less than romantic view of relationships. Does this album represent the bittersweet, adult phase of Art Brut?

EA: [Laughs] I think we've matured, but only by about a year and a half. The first album was set when we were 17, and we're 18 and half now.

SEE: You've got a great name for a band—but is it any less applicable, if it ever was, now that you've grown more estab-

lished and more proficient at your craft?

EA: Kind of. We're still honest and crude. When I started calling us Art Brut, the rest of the band didn't really know what it meant. It was a slight dig towards them because they couldn't play and stuff—and were criminals and psychotics. I was saying, "Hey, we're in Art Brut," and no one had any idea what it meant apart from me. But I think it still applies a little bit.

ZOLTAN VARADI

**SEE biscuit**  
*bits of morsels of fact*

**WOMAN'S DAY** A 79-year-old woman in the small Ontario town foiled two robbers with nothing but a sake of her stick, according to a CP story. The men escaped, but police did find and return everything they stole.

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## Interview with a "Vampyre"

Pop troubadour Pete Yorn returns from the dark side with *Nightcrawler*

## PETE YORN

w/ Crowded House. Thu, Sept 6. Jubilee Auditorium. Tickets: \$49.50-\$79.50, available through Ticketmaster



WHEN PETE YORN WROTE THE opening track to his latest album, 2006's *Nightcrawler*, he was sitting in the basement of his parents' New Jersey home just before it was sold to another family. "Vampyre" would be the last song he'd write under that roof, and the last song he'd tap out with his fingertips while surrounded by the artifacts of his childhood.

Yorn struck out in a different musical direction that day: unlike the sturdy, upbeat pop-rock he's known for, he found himself mixing slower, echoing vocals with prickling guitars and haunting silences, textures all suggestive of some kind of sinister night-time transformation. But Yorn says the song's message is more upbeat than its sound and title suggest.

"It's actually a kind of a rallying together," he explains. "It's about people who are misunderstood or are told they can't approach life the way they want to or those who are left behind: it's a massive kind of call to rally together and say 'Screw you.' That's where it comes from."

That mixture of light and darkness audible on "Vampyre" reflects Yorn's topsy-turvy emotional state during *Nightcrawler's* production period. Plagued by alcoholism and insomnia, he was saved in the end only by his desire to finish the record. "I was dealing with a lot of stuff," he says. "I wasn't really in a good place emotionally. I was drinking a lot at the time and abusing my body and making some bad decisions. I had friends who were sick and dying; I was trying to make a record and I was just kind of not sleeping much. I was getting into a lot of stuff at night, which is where the

## THE YORN OF LIVING DANGEROUSLY

Pete Yorn had to soak up a lot of bad vibes in order to create *Nightcrawler*title *Nightcrawler* came from.

"I spent a lot of time in Venice, California and took in the whole vibe," he continues. "It's an interesting place in California that has a seediness to it that I feel is reflected in the sounds of the record. I remember walking around the back alleys there at night and getting inspired by what was going on around me: street people walking around, vagrants, dealers, and the overall heaviness that hangs in the air at night. I brought that back into the studio with me and put it into the record."

Ironically enough, Yorn had originally intended *Nightcrawler* to work thematically with his previous two records, 2001's annoyingly titled *Musicforthenormingafter* (2001) and 2003's *Day I Forgot*, whose classic pop craftsmanship earned Yorn comparisons to everyone from T. Rex to Bruce

Springsteen. (The three titles form a loose *Day/Morning/Night* trilogy.) *Nightcrawler* has more complex emotional shadings than the previous two, but it's also a more confident album. Yorn thinks that just comes with knowing when to pick up the pen and put down the bottle.

"I think I'm still very optimistic [on *Nightcrawler*]," he says. "When I made my first record, I think I definitely still saw both sides of the coin: it's just that I've got much more life experience at this point. The main thing is who I was when I made the record. I was a different person in many ways when I made my first or second record, as was my perspective on the world. And I'm a different person now than when I did *Nightcrawler*. That change informs the songs and the way I approached everything."

AMANDA ASH

## STILL REELING

The BBC recently published a report stating that of the 5,000 full-time musicians working in the city of New Orleans before Hurricane Katrina devastated the city with massive flooding, 3,000 remain displaced today. Makes you want to think twice before you complain about the relatively small trickle of creative types leaving Edmonton thanks to rent hikes and other factors. Well, almost, but not quite: see our feature on Lane Andri in this issue.

## WHAT ARE YOU LISTENING TO?

"Lately, the album I have been listening to a lot is *The Boxer* by The National.

"My favourite thing about the album is how the songs open up with each listen. On the surface they are all pretty awesome, but with repeated listens you begin to hear (especially on good headphones) all of the deftly mixed layers. There is a mini orchestra underlying nearly every song, which creates some really enjoyable textures and a sort of subtle, lurking energy. Or something like that." —Mike Kropinski, Hills Like White Elephants

## Sonic perfection?

Is fine-tuning iTunes just a fool's errand?

ZOLTAN VARADI'S  
EYE ON  
MUSIC

Let's hope it does.

## R.I.P.

Joining Joey, Johnny and Dee on a squallid, urine-scented stage in the hereafter: Hilly Kristal, founder of CBGB, the venerable punk institution in New York's Bowery which was home to key early shows by the Ramones, Blondie, Talking Heads, The Dictators, Television, The Heartbreakers (Johnny Thunders', not Tom Petty's), and Patti Smith to name just a few. Kristal passed away at age of 75 on Tuesday after a battle with lung cancer. The club closed just last year after 33 years in business.

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## A spectre from the past

Vancouver's Ghost House summon spirits of punk's more diverse history

**FRIDAY**  
Fri, Aug 31. The Starlite Room (10030-102 St). Info: 428-7827

**LISTEN TO GHOST HOUSE** AND sure, you'll hear some pleasant (albeit a little jagged) interchanges of male-female harmonies. And sure, their poppy melodies are propped up by some fairly delicate piano lines too. But make no mistake about this Vancouver band: they're as punk rock as any

batch of kids with wallet chains and brand-new tattoos.

"It's just that a lot of people don't know it," laughs the band's front guy, pianist/vocalist Jesse Gander, but he's not joking when he talks about their pedigree. "It's not all that different. The main thing that's different is the choice of sounds that we use—piano usually isn't associated with heavier forms of music, but whatever. It works. We didn't really have a

concept for a sound—we worked on our own styles individually, and then we came together. To me, it's still punk rock—that's what I grew up listening to.

Gander, a child of the '80s and teenager of the '90s, says his young age meant he missed seeing most of his favourite acts play live, but the possibilities that punk presented in its classic form are what enabled him to find his own voice—one that not so coincidentally has an urgency that recalls his favourite songwriter, Joe Strummer.

"In the '70s and even the early

'80s," he says, "punk rock wasn't so established in what it's 'supposed' to sound like. It became very homogenized throughout the '90s. You had record labels putting out 12 bands that all sounded identical to one another and that were all recorded by the same people, and toured together. You know what I mean? Like the Fat [Wreck] Records thing [NOFX, Lagwagon, etc., etc.].

"If you consider what New York was like in the '70s... People considered Television to be punk rock, or Blondie. Bands that sounded radically different in instrumentation and production. That's what happens to genres as time goes on—they split into subgenres and those subgenres become very specific as to what you need to sound like to fit into

that. You brand the whole thing. You label it, and there you go: you've created a subculture that's more marketable to people."

And as time goes on, the real punks (or whatever they choose to call themselves) become easy to identify: they're the ones who work hardest to depart from the cookie cutter mold.

That description fits Gander. Something of a fixture on the Vancouver band scene, he records for noted indie studio The Hive and has played with the likes of Operation Makeout and Black Rice. Ghost House operated as a loose recording project for years, with members coming and going until Gander decided he wanted to commit to the band full-time and nailed down a permanent lineup with multi-instrumentalists Allan Boyle, Katie Lapi, and Steve M. But while the lineup has solidified, their aesthetic sure hasn't.

"Usually when you start a band you establish your sound and work more towards it," Gander says. "But the most recent stuff we've written is even more different, so it's hard to say where we're going—a couple of songs are heavier than they've ever been before and a couple are way, way mellower."

As such, Gander and Co. are following up their full-length CD *Departures*, released by Edmonton's Reluctant Records, with four very different-sounding EPs. (Why not just release it all as a double disc, you ask? Gander says he doesn't think most rock recordings warrant that length—The Clash's *London Calling* excepted, of course.)

"As we've gone on, they've gotten weirder and weirder," Gander laughs, "and I don't know where it's going."

ZOLTAN VARADI

## Calling for Tek support

Bad Men nab legendary Radio Birdman guitarist

**LAST OF THE BAD MEN**  
w/ Fat Dave Crime Wave and The Daggers. Sat, Sept 1 (8pm). Backdraught Pub (8307 99 St). Tickets: \$7

YOU CAN TRACE THE GENESIS OF the international group Last of the Bad Men to a fluke phone call made by Art Godoy and his then band to a Billings, Montana hospital in 1991.

"We were huge Radio Birdman fans," explains guitarist Godoy (who, along with his drummer brother Steve, forms the core of several bands, including LOTBM), "and we wanted to get hold of [Birdman guitarist] Deniz Tek. We knew that he was a doctor in a hospital in Montana, but we're like, 'Fuck—we don't know what city,' so we took a chance and put a phone call to this hospital in Billings. Turns out that not only was he working there, but he was also on duty. He got on the phone, we introduced ourselves, and we ended up staying in touch."

Radio Birdman, the cult Australian proto-punk band that formed in 1974 with Tek's MC5-inspired guitar work a crucial component—were more than just favourites of the Godoys; they were an essential influence on their much-missed Orange Coun-

ty punk band, Exploding Fuck Dolls. At the cusp of the punk explosion that would take bands like Green Day, Sublime, and The Offspring to commercial success, the Fuck Dolls were playing to packed houses but somehow missed the label feeding frenzy.

"When we were playing in '93 we had a strong lineup," Godoy says, "and a lot of bands were opening for us, like Pennywise, Fu Manchu, and we had serious major-label interest. But then we were suddenly left in the lurch. We were pretty bitter about it—you'd see the guys from Green Day standing in the audience in dreadlocks and shorts watching us, and the next year they're doing what you're doing. It makes you just wonder."

Still, the Godoys did make at least one important connection: at the same time that the Exploding Fuck Dolls were in San Diego for a gig, Tek was there for a medical convention. "He leaped onstage to jam with the band," Godoy says, "and when he came offstage, he said, 'That was a great practice—let's do some shows!'"

Years later, that casual relationship—based on a mutual love of classic punk and high-energy rock—ended up with the brothers

and Tek forming the supergroup Last of the Bad Men with bassist Troy Zak (of Calgary's The Daggers) and vocalist Danny Creadon. "For us it's all cool," Godoy says. "The common denominator is high-energy music, whether it's punk or just rock, MC5-era, Radio Birdman-style, we just end up combining all of our favourite elements."

With so many side projects and careers to think of—the Godoys are both tattoo artists, Art in Vancouver, Steve in Orange County, while Tek works away in the ER—the Last of the Bad Men are forced to compose from a distance. They record demos on mp3 and send them to each other, and when enough songs are finished, they make arrangements for rehearsals and go into the studio.

That's how last year's *Nowhere Is Safe* was developed—in the frenetic rush to get everything together, with Tek mailing in his parts, the full band didn't even meet until just before the first set of shows. "The only thing has been keeping patient until it's time to play," Godoy says. "Deniz won't be able to make these shows—he also has to go to Europe for six weeks with the reunited Radio Birdman—so in the meantime we go out as a four-piece. Next year, when he has the time, the plan is to go to Europe and Australia with the full band, and I can't wait."

TOM MURRAY



## DOWN MEMORY LANE

Outgoing Edmonton musician Lane Arndt (left) and his band AA Soundsystem, in their prime

## Boom for whom?

Rising rents deciding factor in creating yet another musical expat

## LANE ARNDT

w/ Ann Vriend (Roxy Theatre: Fri, Aug 31, 10pm); w/ Lane Arndt Trio (Cafe Select Southside: Sat, Sept 1); w/ AA Soundsystem, Headband, The Frosted Tipz and more (Black Dog: Sun, Sept 2)

"YOU'VE GOT FOUR FINGERS AND [you put] those four fingers in 24 unique orders—1,2,3,4, 1,2,4,3, 1,3,2,4, et cetera, et cetera."

Lane Arndt is explaining what he calls the "fairly simple" premise behind an instructional book he's almost finished called

*Guitar Calisthenics*, which he says will guarantee "stronger, more agile and independent" fingers.

Pretty simple, yes, if you didn't take Grade 12 Math five times to get a passing mark, as did his listener. (There's a reason some people end up talking to bands for a living, and it isn't the pay.) But I'm with him so far.

"Four times three times two times one different combinations—and each one of those 24 gets put through a routine of 30 different permutations. So you're getting every single finger combination through every possible string movement," says Arndt, explaining how he formulated the 120 exercises that make up the book.

It makes sense—seriously!—but he'd better look for a more elevated mind to engage with when he finally gets around to opening his music school, which he already has a name for: Forward Momentum. Arndt says he plans to start with a small office and build it up to the point where he can subcontract work to experienced instructors.

"I don't want to teach 12-year-olds AC/DC," he says. "That's not my thing. It's fun to watch anybody play the instrument and have their successes and all that stuff, but I like talking harmonic ratios and improv concepts and opening up what might be called the world of music theory in a creative way."

Unfortunately for Edmonton's music community, Arndt plans on taking this dream elsewhere—Toronto, to be precise. It's not that Albertans aren't sophisticated

enough (present company excluded). No, Arndt's main reason for packing it in after eight and half years in Edmonton—where he's taught music, played sideman to various artists, fronted his own solo projects, gigged in the jazz community, and played a key creative role in the band AA Soundsystem—is the same one I've been hearing more and more from creative minds all over town.

"Toronto is the only industry town we have in the country," he says, "and Edmonton is more expensive than Toronto. And I figured rather than spending \$800-\$1,000 on a one-bedroom apartment in Edmonton, I could move to Toronto and pay less and be in the centre of the music universe."

Yup, the boom proves a bust once again as far as maintaining our creative core goes, but really, Arndt probably would have ended up eastbound sooner or later. There are three major academic centres that teach music theo-

ry in the Toronto area, where Arndt can hawk his books and hopefully build upon the student and faculty bodies of his dream school. Furthermore, he says AA Soundsystem has no plans whatsoever to call it a day ("I never want to stop playing those songs," he says) and promises they'll continue to collaborate long distance. Still, regrets... he has a few.

"I think the only reason people stay in this town," Arndt says, "is because the people are so great. My community here is amazing, and as I confront the last lessons with each one of my students, and play each one of my last gigs with all of my musical partners, and spend the last days with my beautiful girlfriend and all that... It's kind of like, 'Whoa—why am I doing this?'"

Because that harmonic ratio of affordable living and greater opportunity is a-calling. Good luck to him.

ZOLTAN VARADI

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# cd reviews



M.I.A.  
Kala  
(Select)  
★★★★★

IN THE CD BOOKLET THAT ACCOMPANIES *Kala*, there's a reproduction of the old Public Enemy "target" logo. Underneath it says "Welcome to the Terror D'OH!"

A better summation of the pop-

mongrel genre M.I.A. created with her first album *Arular*, and is close to perfecting with *Kala*, would be hard to imagine. A list of her collaborators, guest producers, and eclectic sampling choices would take too long to enumerate here—just rest assured that she's corralled them all into something that is most definitely the *M.I.A. Show*, the crazy beats, the staccato rapping, and the, uh, comprehensive sonic palette are all present and accounted for.

"Bamboo Banga" starts things off with an irresistible slow-building groove. "Boy" is a libidinous dance-party boast. In "XR2," M.I.A. recites a list of pop-culture acronyms (REM, NYC, OPP, MTV, 808, MP3, MCS) and makes a convincing case for her own inclusion in that eclectic canon. Like the rest of her music, it seems first clever, then kind of shallow—and then brilliant.

MATTHEW HALLIDAY

RILO KILEY  
*Under the Blacklight*  
(Warner)  
★★★★★

"DEJALO," WHICH FALLS ROUGHLY AT the midpoint of Rilo Kiley's new disc *Under the Blacklight*, is a textbook example of a song that's obviously terrible but which is irresistible all the same. It's got a pseudo-Latin synth-beat that even Gloria Estefan would blanch at, and lyrics like "I've got a mind if you want to waste it/I've got a tail if you want to chase it." And so on. And yet there's a celebratory spirit to it that's the pure essence of pop. I love its cheerfully disposable bilingual lyrics and I especially love the way this famously hip "indie" band (here making their major-label debut) refuses to condescend to the material.

*Under the Blacklight* is very much an L.A. album—there are very few traces of Rilo Kiley's former alt-country

leanings here. It's a slickly produced collection of songs about prostitutes ("The Moneymaker"), club-hoppers ("Smoke Detector") and underage seductresses ("15")—it's the music I imagine the girls in those American Apparel ads would dance to in their bedrooms as they wriggle into their shiny leotards and pull up their tube socks. It's shallow music made by some very smart people. As such, it's a bit of a guilty pleasure—except for "Breakin' Up," which is such a perfect, infectious pop song that you'll want to call up your boyfriend and dump him immediately after hearing it.

PAUL MATWYCHUK

LIARS  
*Liars*  
(EMI)  
★★★★★

LIKE A BADLY DISTORTED TRANSMISSION from some faraway rock 'n' roll galaxy, Liars' new self-titled album

takes a while to decipher, but it's worth the effort.

A lot of people are talking about *Liars* being a "departure" for the band, but that's kind of a hollow observation—this is a group for whom every record has been radically different from the records that preceded it. And on *Liars*, the band genre-hops even from one song to another. We start with the droning space-rock of "Plaster Casts of Everything," segue into the funky electro of "Houseclouds," the Jesus and Mary Chain-aping "Pure Unevil" and "The Dumb in the Rain," whose little-kid-chanting-in-the-basement sound recalls early Sonic Youth. There's even some dumb cock-rock riffing on "Cycle Time."

But everything still comes up *Liars*: strange, scary, black as midnight weirdo-rock. "I wanna run away/I wanna run away/I wanna bring you too!" shouts Angus Andrew on "Plaster Casts." And I wanna come along.

MATTHEW HALLIDAY



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# my look

Name: Amy Shostak

Location: Queen Alex Grocery Store  
Occupation: Improviser and Cafe Mosaics dynamo

Wearing: My boots are Doc Martens. I got them from Divine. They have brown paint on them and look dirty all the time. I just got my socks. My auntie Donna gave them to me. They were on sale from Zellers. The dress is one of my favourites. I got it from the Gypsy Queen Boutique. My favourite part are the white buttons. I think it's funny that someone thought "I'll put these two fabrics together that are neon and brown." My grey sweater is from Zara in West Edmonton Mall. I like cardigans. I got my purse in Montreal. It has a fish on it. The wooden earrings are from Nokomis. Hair: I haven't gotten it cut in a long time, but when I do, I go to Chelsey Jackman at Urban Roots.

Into: Improvising, Slavic cultures, museums, Yoko Ono, camping, hiking, open-air cultural sites

Not into: Cocaine, gang wars, Comic Sans font, Hep B

Movies: Don McKellar movies, *Amélie*, *Home Alone*, anything (John Hughes is a god), *Ghost World*, *Murder by Numbers*

Music: Dizzee Rascal, The Rolling Stones, The Stooges, *The Murder City Devils*, M. Ward, Pink Mountain, I can't say no, I stand I'm human, All the Way Back

Reading: I've finished *Marley*, *Art Spiegelman's *Maus**, *Reading Lolita* and *Umberto Eco's *L'Obiettivo**. I'm a collection of amazingly critical essays.

Inspiration: Crabs from Cobras, Jacob Batalon's book, Icarus bird-watching, people who are sew my teeth, foxes, and my blood relatives.

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# Tag: You're It

story Zoltan Varadi  
photos Turner Strap

Like many a kid, Clayton Lowe was fascinated by trains. He didn't, however, spend his youth hunkered down in the garage producing scale-models locomotives. No, Lowe's trainophilia sparked an enduring vocation of a far more colourful, enamel-based, aerosol-produced kind.

You see, around the age of 15, Lowe became entranced not by the trains themselves but the graffiti marking the cars that passed through a major rail artery close to his Edmonton home. In a sense, he quite literally became a trainspotter.

"But without the drugs at that point," he quips.

What was the appeal of this artform produced by authors unknown? "The mystery of it, for sure," Lowe says. "Where did it come from? Why it was produced? Who did it? Why are there some spots that have it and others that don't? What level of integration and discourse does this have on your environment?"

Heady questions for a young lad, although it's likely the last set of questions only sur-

faced later, once Lowe was pursuing a formal education in illustration and visual communications. (He's currently the only designer on staff at the Alberta Gallery of Art.) But back in the day, those trains got Lowe rolling to the hardware store for a can of spray paint and then back to the trainyard, where he made his first forays into graffiti culture. Although he recalls his initial attempts as "fairly feeble," through practice Lowe realized he had a knack for the medium—so much so that he eventually earned legitimate commissions around town, much of which can still be seen, if you stroll around the Bissell Centre, the Churchill LRT station, or the overpass crossing 99 Ave and 110 St.

Of course, it took a while for the city to extend the invitation to use its public spaces as a canvas. And Lowe is a bit circumspect about his brushes with the law during his formative years as a "non-commissioned" practicing graffiti artist.

"Well, I won't get too much into my personal situations," he says, obviously weighing his words. "We'll just put it this way: it's tricky to

stay out of trouble entirely, but not impossible."

## WE'RE ALL ARTISTS

"I'm essentially interested in making the city look better, and, as you know, this city could go a long way to looking better," laughs mural painter Ian Mulder. "And we have a real thirst here for good public art, and not just shit public art—grassroots stuff that actually comes from the community."

While Mulder admits that graffiti art isn't his world. Through his work with the iHuman Society, the Edmonton-based nonprofit organization that works with at-risk youth (he was involved with their crisis intervention and life-skills and mentorship programs), Mulder mentored a young un-commissioned public artist who hadn't learned the way Lowe had how

to stay out of trouble. Mulder asked him to be his assistant on one of his murals.

That experience led to discussions between Mulder and iHuman founder/director Wallace Kendall about addressing what Mulder refers to as "the so-called 'graffiti problem' in the city" by offering high-end commissions to young taggers as a way of "channeling that energy into more legitimate and financially rewarding projects."

Hence, State of the Art, a combination workshop/competition that Mulder and Lowe hope will start a dialogue between "fine" artists and their street counterparts. The event will take place over two weekends and will culminate with five commissions being awarded to as many teams; the resulting works will beautify iHuman's new HQ on Jasper and 95 St.

"The great thing about this is not only is it bringing artists together, but artists of different stripes," enthuses Mulder. "Street artists, more mainstream artists, the university-type crowd—especially those doing the stencils and wheat paste stuff here around town."





"Education and collaboration through practice, whether it's art or construction or cooking or whatever the fuck it is, it tends to build community," adds Lowe. "Education and collaboration are the things that bring people together: dissemination of knowledge and inspiring and engaging one another. Being involved with iHuman, I couldn't think of a better forum to have something like State of the Art under, because it reaches out to the novice and the intermediate painters who need it the most, not just to learn but to share what they know and feel like they're part of something."

WANT IT? AS YOU WANNA BE

Though it's a grand plan, this State of the Art, Mulder and Lowe both acknowledge that it's not going to end the debate on the validity of street art or lessen the outlaw appeal of illegal, unsanctioned graffiti art. But the way Lowe sees it, that's part of the dialogue they hope to provoke.

"There's a level of dissidence, right?" he says. "There's a level of discourse in the act alone of putting a mark on wall that's been

around since the dawn of man, since the caves of Lascaux. There's something intrinsic in nature in mark-making and leaving visual communications behind in open spaces, whether it's on the side of a rock or a building.

"Graffiti tends to be used as a scapegoat for the other sort of issues going on in communities. I know in Edmonton it's been in and out of the news, and I haven't really been keeping up on it, but through conversations with other artists... I think it tends to be symbolic of the real problems that are happening in communities, like homelessness or the lack of low-income/low-cost housing. The vacancy rate in Edmonton is something like below three per cent and things like homelessness and addiction are becoming more visible, and a lot of people see graffiti as things getting out of hand and outside of the control of established governing bodies."

For his part, Mulder says State of the Art doesn't represent any attempt to rehabilitate artists who prefer to work outside the accepted societal parameters, rather, it's a way of exploring the techniques of a well defined genre.

whether it's executed with the blessing of a higher authority or not.

"There will be guys who are too cool for school who say this is too public," Mulder says. "That's fine. But I know there are a lot of street artists that are going to be interested in coming. It's a safe venue, especially with our connection to iHuman—they've lent a lot of street cred to this because they're basically there for you guys and girls in trouble."

"The discourse has been going on around the world," Lowe concludes. "Europe is flourishing, South America is flourishing, Asia and Australia—graffiti is being disseminated into public art on both legal and illegal platforms. Some of it is appreciated and some of it isn't. I guess it depends on the ownership of the property. I think it's extremely valuable to have both ends of the spectrum. It's good to know that there are people who think differently than the majority. That's healthy."

## STATE OF THE ART

Sept 8-9 and 15-16 (11am-4pm), iHuman Youth Society Building (10231-95 St). Registration: 421 8811 (open to all artists)

## Burnt Sienna

Buscemi mistreats Miller in *Interview*

### INTERVIEW

Directed by Steve Buscemi. Starring Steve Buscemi and Sienna Miller. Opens Fri, Aug 31

★★★½

WHAT'S WITH ALL THE HATE FOR Sienna Miller? Just look at these reader comments on *The Onion's* "A.V. Club" review of her new film *Interview*, directed by and co-starring Steve Buscemi:

"Sienna Miller is one of the least talented actresses of the current generation.... She got fame for her looks (even though they aren't that special) and who she was dating, now she is trying to back up the earlier

interest shown in her with acting and just isn't up to the job. I'm not saying that there aren't roles out there for her, just none that require a level of serious acting."

"I thought she was good on *Ken Eddie*. The role required her to be vaguely pretty and annoying, which she pulled off well."

"Why the fuck did [Steve Buscemi] cast this chick? The critics are eating it up, and now she's gonna be seen as a legitimate actress, just when it seemed like her career would be killed by the horrid *Factory Girl*. And Jude Law, please don't fuck anymore wannabe actresses. You're killing us here."

I'm not sure whether these commenters realize that the hostility on display here—the unwillingness to even acknowledge the obvious fact that Sienna Miller is beautiful—is

**Put Sienna Miller's character on *Charlie Rose* and he'd be on the floor whimpering within half an hour.**

precisely the same kind that Buscemi's character in *Interview* has for Miller's, and that it's just as unattractive a trait onscreen.

Buscemi plays Pierre Peders, a reporter for *Newsworld*, who's been assigned to write a puff piece on Katja, a tabloid-fodder starlet more famous for her boyfriends and her

breasts than her acting talent. It's never exactly clear why a *Time*/ *Newsweek*-style newsmagazine would be interested in running a profile of a B-list star promoting a slasher movie called *Killer Body 4*, but at least Pierre recognizes it for the demeaning assignment that it is. As a "serious" journalist who's filed reports from Sarajevo to Washington, he doesn't even try to hide his contempt for Katja; he shows up for their interview completely unprepared, asks her a few insulting questions about her work, and refers to her under his breath as "Cuntys" after she walks out on him.

What follows are a series of not-entirely-convincing contrivances designed to get Pierre and Katja inside her awe-inspiringly gigantic Manhattan loft, where the interview continues deep into the night. Except it's not so much a celebrity interview as a series of vicious head games and power plays. And Katja proves to be more than a match for Pierre—even with all the wine and cocaine in her system, she's able not just to parry his every insult (when he loftily tells her, "I don't fuck celebrities," she says, "Well, I don't fuck nobodies") but to seduce him into telling her all his secrets without really giving up any of her own. Put this woman on with *Charlie Rose* and he'd be on the floor whimpering within half an hour.

Which brings me back to Sienna Miller, who, fascinatingly, keeps choosing movies in which she plays beautiful women who aren't quite as shallow or stupid as they initially appear. Is this a form of silent protest? I haven't seen *Factory Girl*, her Edie Sedgwick biopic that opened last year to lukewarm reviews, but I really enjoyed her in *Layer Cake*, *Alfie*, and especially *Star-dust*, in which she played the



Q&A&Q&A&Q&A Steve Buscemi and Sienna Miller get gabbing in *Interview*

woman the hero thinks he's in love at the start of the movie, but who we can see is much too conventional to ever make a dreamer like him happy. Except Miller is much more likable than Claire Danes, the hero's "proper" love interest—I love the scene where she talks about the engagement ring the hero's rival has given her and how he brought it "all the way from Ipswich!" Danes is literally playing a star that has fallen out of the sky, and yet Miller makes the trip to Ipswich seem like a much more magical and wondrous journey.

*Interview* isn't much of a movie—it feels more like an Off-Broadway acting exercise, a situation that gives the actors lots of "turns" and hidden "intentions" to play, none of which are particularly interesting to an audience. But Miller is as sharp as a tack in it—quick-witted, intuitive, unaffected, very aware of how to use her body in service of the scene. If you want to slam Scarlett Johansson, I'll back you up every step of the way, but you'd better leave my gal Sienna alone.

PAUL MATWYCHUK

subtly that puts the pathos of *Good Will Hunting* to shame.

### THE WIND THAT SHAKES THE BARLEY

This story of a young medical student in 1920s Ireland (*Sunshine's* Cillian Murphy) who abandons his studies to join the IRA won the Palme d'Or at Cannes in 2006. Director Ken Loach brings his usual passion to this material, and steadfastly keeps the plot from sinking into Irish sentimentality.

### 30 ROCK: SEASON ONE

Still in withdrawal from your regular fix of *Arrested Development*? Well, *30 Rock* makes for pretty good comedy methadone. Hey, did you hear about creator/star Tina Fey's hilarious dis of *Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip* at the Writers Guild Awards in New York in February? "I hear Aaron Sorkin is in Los Angeles wearing the same dress," she said, "but longer and not funny."

### UP IN SMOKE:

#### HIGH-LAMOUS EDITION

Cheech and Chong's 1978 stoner classic drifts onto DVD. Stacy Keach dreams of one day getting another role this good.

## DVD Dictator

These are the discs you must buy this Tuesday

### STEPHANIE DALEY

Independent movies about women don't sell tickets. At least, that seems to be the reasoning that has led so many excellent films by female directors—*Broken English*, *The Dead Girl*, and now *Stephanie Daley*—to have gotten almost no distribution this year... and worse, none of the critical

enthusiasm that might have raised their profile high enough to give them a fighting chance on DVD.

Amber Tamblyn plays the title character here, a 16-year-old accused of killing her newborn infant; Tilda Swinton is the psychologist assigned to her case. Writer/director Hilary Brougher handles their scenes together with a



STEPHANIE DALEY Amber Tamblyn holds her own against Tilda Swinton

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THE ENTIRE EARTH IS THE TITANIC!  
Leonardo DiCaprio says we're all going down in *The 11th Hour*

## The end might be nigh

Dicaprio's *11th Hour* is scary but baffling

### THE 11TH HOUR

Directed by Nadia Connors and Leila Connors Peterson. Starring Leonardo DiCaprio. Opens Fri, Aug 30. **★★★☆**

PLEASE GOD, SOMEBODY GET ED "NO BRAKES" Stelmach to see this film—if only so that he can hear a small army of experts telling him what the people of Alberta are already trying to: that exponential economic expansion is, in itself, not a good thing. It's destructive and parasitic, growth gone crazy.

Narrated by Leonardo DiCaprio, *The 11th Hour* is a strident, powerful, if somewhat incoherent message-movie about the dangerous environmental precipice the human species is perched upon. (DiCaprio's presence is kept to a minimum, thankfully. Maybe the filmmaker's theory is that one movie star is worth a thousand David Suzukis, but does middle America really want some pampered millionaire hectoring them about their lifestyles?)

The real stars of the film are the various scientists, academics, and talking heads who wax apocalyptic over harrowing montages of natural disasters and toxic landscapes. Yes, we get a lot of dire prognostications—the most dire of which concern global warming.

Eminent physicist Stephen Hawking warns that, in a worst-case scenario, our current degree of greenhouse warming could melt just enough of the Arctic permafrost to release the massive amounts of methane trapped inside it—which could, in concert with a few other factors, heat up the planet to a average temperature of 250 degrees Celsius, turning Earth into a barren, hellish wasteland, with rainstorms of sulfuric acid. Elsewhere, we're warned that global warming may be capable of switching off the oceans' "conveyor belt"—the process by which water from deep in the oceans rises to the top, and water at the top sinks to the bottom. The last time this happened, we're told, was at the end of the Permian extinction, when 95 per cent of all species on Earth died.

But many, many questions are left unanswered. For example: why would that cause a mass extinction? What are the mechanisms by which global warming could turn off this conveyor belt effect? Who are all these experts anyway?

*The 11th Hour's* assemblage of eru-

dition is so far-reaching that it seems brand-new talking heads are popping up every few minutes, giving us some horrendous news about the possible future of our planet, and then disappearing, having suitably scared us without explaining why we should be scared.

Which isn't to cast their credentials into doubt. These are, for the most part, well-known and highly respected scholars and scientists. It's just that with 18 of them weighing in, nobody gets enough screen time to go in-depth. The doomsaying skips by in a terrifying compendium of disaster scenarios, but we don't really learn much about the mechanics of environmental destruction.

The second hour of the film tries to discuss ways in which we can reverse, or at least mitigate, the damage we've wrought. This is a welcome change from enviro-docs that scare us half to death and then, to end things on a cheery note, give us five minutes of "what you can do to help."

But just as in the first half, this segment skips by too quickly to be of much use. We get inspiring illustrations of a "carbon-neutral city," of electric locomotives, of alternatives to the non-biodegradable plastics and other toxins that are being carried to the far reaches of the oceans where they poison delicate ecosystems, creating "dead zones" hundreds of square miles in area. But again, there's too much info, presented in too higgledy-piggledy a fashion. The main message I carried away was "buy energy-efficient lightbulbs," which unfortunately, may only further convince people that serious environmental action can be accomplished with little more than making a few adjustments to what's in your shopping bag.

In spite of its flaws, *The 11th Hour* can't help but be an important film. It's stuffed with so much info that it risks sliding into unintelligibility, but even if audiences leave the theatre without a clear idea as to *how* we're destroying our environment (and, in so doing, ourselves), they'll at least leave with some very frightening possibilities lingering in their heads. They might not know *what* needs to be done, but they'll need to know *something* has to.

So what do you say, Ed? Got an evening free this week? I'll buy you a Coke...

MATTHEW HALLIDAY

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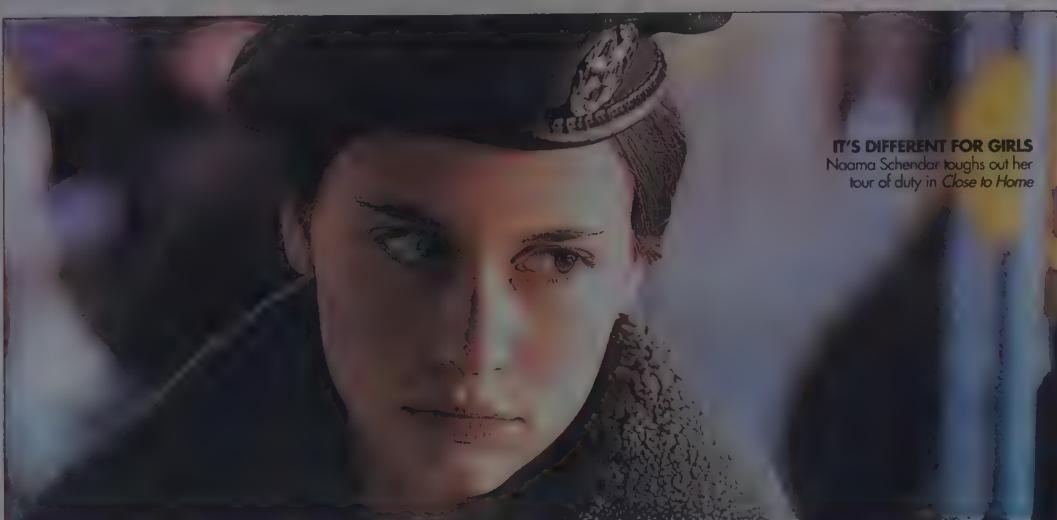
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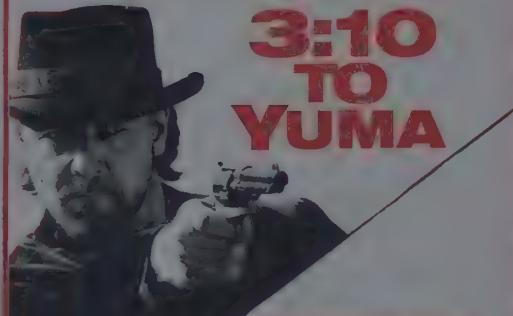


IT'S DIFFERENT FOR GIRLS  
Naama Schendar toughs out her tour of duty in *Close to Home*

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**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 2ND AT 7PM**

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## Soldier girls

*Close to Home* shows the Israeli army's female side

**CLOSE TO HOME**

Directed by Dalia Hager and Vidi Bilu.  
Starring Smadar Sayar and Naama Schendar. Opens Fri, Aug 31. **★★★☆**

SMADAR, A YOUNG ISRAELI soldier, finally snaps at having to undress and search Palestinian women as they travel between the Arab and Israeli section of the divided city. She's politically and philosophically opposed to the practice, and so after she peremptorily sends everyone home without the humiliating personal search, her superior officer hustles her off to jail.

Those first few minutes of *Close to Home* set up the slender premise of this quietly absorbing 2005 Israeli film, as Smadar is paired up with another 18-year-old female soldier named Mirit as a patrol unit in Jerusalem.

Two more different personalities are hard to imagine: Mirit is timid and hopes to complete her compulsory military service without making waves, while Smadar can barely hide her sullen contempt for her immediate commander. But despite their attempts to appear gruff and professional, the soldiers in *Close to Home* are still young girls, and as they walk the streets of the city, supposedly checking Palestinians' ID cards, they instead warn each other of surprise inspections by cellphone, ditch work during rainy days and huddle in shops, smoke, talk about men, and basically slack off. When it comes to checking up on Palestinian workers, they do a lousy job—shy to approach them and unwilling to invade their space, they come back from a full day to an exasperated commander, who sarcastically asks whether there are any Arabs in the city at all.

In this almost *cinéma-vérité* character study—the first film ever to address the experiences of young women in the Israeli army—writer/directors Dalia Hager and Vidi Bilu draw on their own personal experiences to inform the day-to-day life of their characters. *Close to Home* is fasci-

nated by inconsequential details, and that's to its credit—it's more interested in humanizing these women than taking a sledgehammer approach to the story's bigger political themes. Both girls eventually end up having a significant effect on each other—Mirit especially becomes more willful, harder to push around, and more willing to take chances and assert herself.

There are no great epiphanies here, just incremental signs of these young girls eventually becoming women as the full impact of their job and their situa-

**But despite their attempts to appear gruff and professional, the soldiers in *Close to Home* are still young girls.**

tion becomes clear to them. The Palestinians are ciphers to these soldiers, but even so they recognize their humanity—which makes the scenes where they're forced by circumstance to act inhumanely to them as repulsive to the soldiers as they are to the viewer. But this change manifests itself only in small, subtle gestures—even the expected terror attack (which happens nearer to the beginning of the film than the end) never really shakes the girls loose of their almost solipsistic self-possession.

The sequence does give one great image, though: Smadar standing in the aftermath of the bombing, slowly turning as barricades are put up and rescue workers dig, the sound receding while she realizes the full impact of what's just occurred.

TOM MURRAY





**THAT'S A PADDIN'**

Dan Fogler lives to serve in *Balls of Fury*

## Nuts to Balls...

Ping pong caper pure crap, despite Walken

**BALLS OF FURY**

Directed by Ben Garant. Starring Dan Fogler, Christopher Walken, George Lopez, and Maggie Q. Now playing. ★★★★☆

"...AND CHRISTOPHER WALKEN, who you may remember from *Wedding Crashers*..."

This how a radio DJ referred to one of cinema's most venerable kooks at a preview screening of *Balls of Fury*.

No mention of *The Deer Hunter*, *Pulp Fiction*, *True Romance*, *King of New York*. Just the equivalent of: "Maybe you'll recognize that guy from that mildly amusing C-list comedy in this Z-grade piece of shit you're only watching because you won a free pass."

But you know what? There's no need to feel bad for Walken. He's thrived on this kind of thing for years, collecting a nice paycheque for showing up in some goofy

their hands, or if they were simply putting the same minimal effort as Walken into what amounts to a tax write-off for the studio. Anyways, the plot: Fogler plays Randy Daytona, a former ping pong child prodigy who falls into disgrace after he loses a big match to a cruel, preening German caricature named Karl Wolfschtagg, and his father, who bet on the tourney, is murdered by the henchman of the ping pong-obsessed cross-dressing crime lord Feng (Walken).

Years later, Daytona, reduced to performing ping pong tricks in a Reno dive bar, is enlisted by the FBI to infiltrate Feng's empire by way of a secret tournament in South America. But, first he must regain his mojo by training under a Chinese master...

Oh shit, I give up. It's dumb. That's the point. Ridiculous =

**Chopsticks grab a guy's nutsack, chopsticks go up a guy's nose, Walken wears funny clothes, fat guy shows surprising athleticism...**

garb (in this case, what looks like a dowager empress' outfit), calling in some of those nervous trademark tics, and reading a few simple lines of nonsense in that halting, hesitant timbre.

Good for him. But for you? Not so much.

Ostensibly a send-up of martial arts movies, *Balls of Fury* is actually a vehicle for emerging not-so-comedic force Dan Fogler, a kind of poor man's Jack Black (if Black can be called a rich person's anything) whose primary tactic for grabbing laughs consists of squeezing his pasty, rotund body into tight shorts.

And what can I say? It's kind of funny—but not for 90 minutes.

It's hard to tell if the hacks who scripted the rest of this thing actually thought they had a hit on

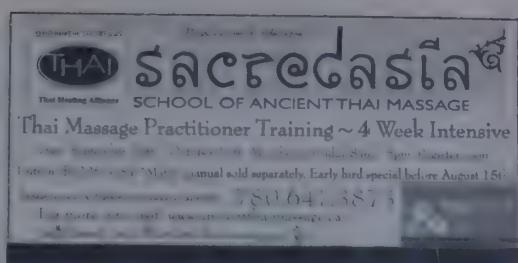
funny. I get it.

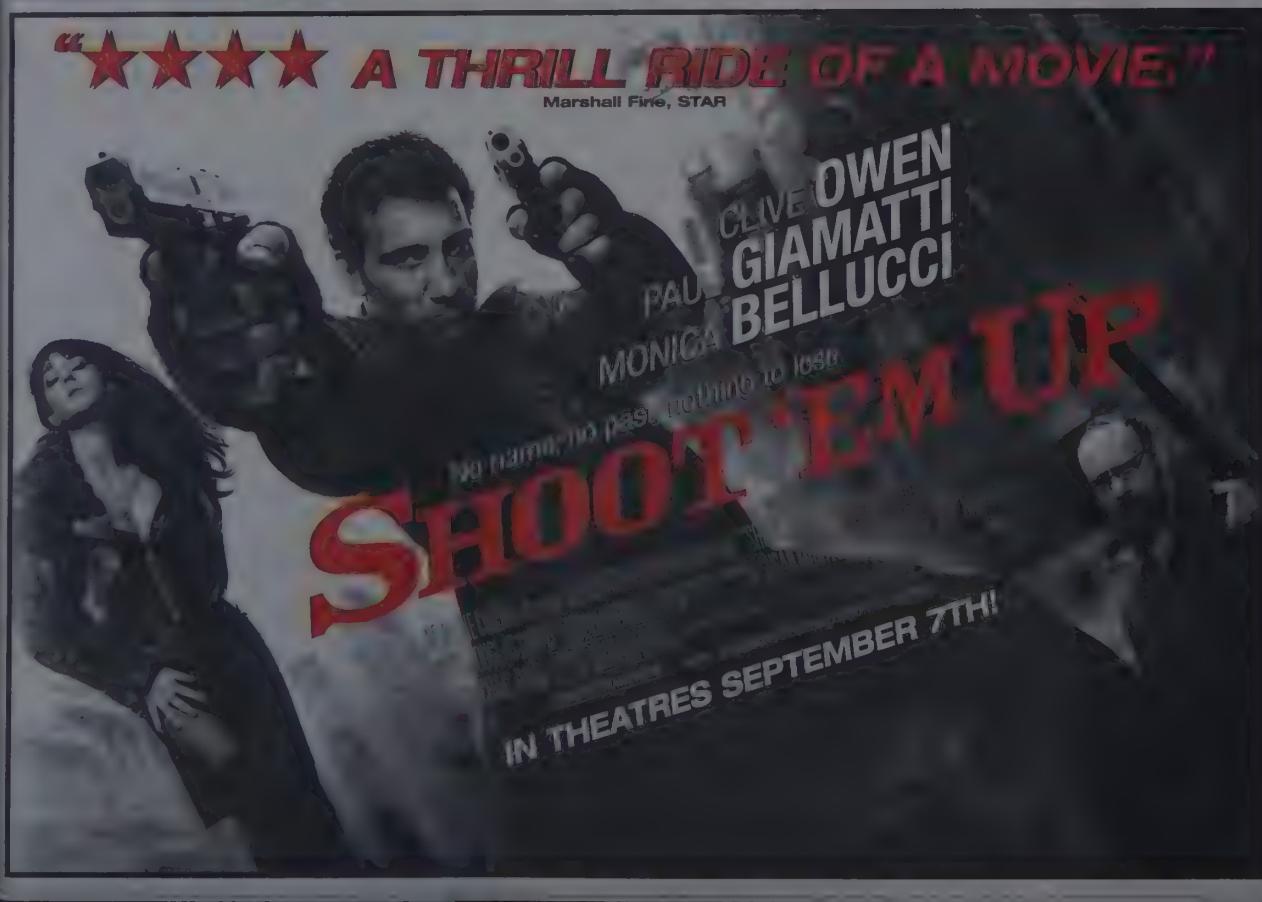
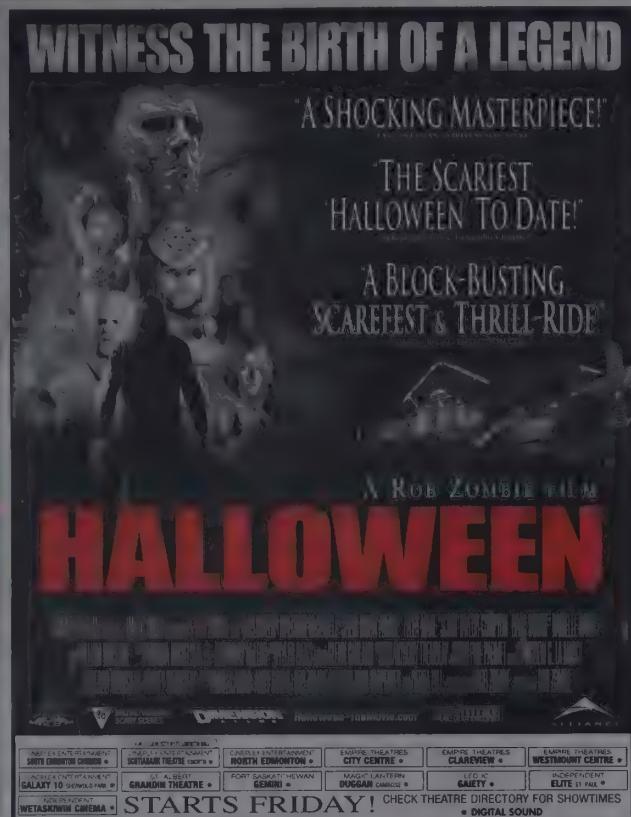
So, let's get on with the laugh reel: chopsticks grab a guy's nutsack; chopsticks go up a guy's nose and are later used to eat noodles; a blind man sleeps with a male prostitute thinking he's a woman; Christopher Walken wears funny clothes; fat guy shows surprising athleticism. Et cetera.

Basically, it's a silly movie with stale gags made for kids. Relatively unsophisticated kids. Downright dumb kids. Come to think of it, kids like I was at the age of 11, howling in ecstasy at *Tony Danza* and a bunch of orangutans in *Going Ape*.

So, if you were me in 1981, this is for you. But be warned: it has no monkeys.

ZOLTAN VARADI







THE FERAL KIDS *Kid Nation* conjures memories of *Lord of the Flies*

## Shame of the Nation

Come on: isn't *all* reality TV exploitation?

WELL, THE LONG WEEKEND IS UPON us, and you know what that means: the new TV season is right around the corner. Except at Fox, who for some reason has decided to premiere all its new shows in January. In the next month or two, we'll get a taste of what's honey (*Pushing Daisies*) and what's vinegar (*Celebrity Rap Superstar*) among the new offerings. But as Brendan Behan once said, there is no such thing as bad publicity, and already the networks are circling the wagons and doing damage control.

The most recent scandal involves the allegations of abuse on CBS's new reality show *Kid Nation*. I still haven't decided whether this concept is idiotic or totally brilliant—dump a bunch of kids ages 8-15 in an abandoned movie set "town" in Nowhere, New Mexico, and make them fend for themselves.

They have to (gasp) cook their own meals, clean up after themselves, and elect their own government. (Just where do you find a conch shell in the desert anyhow?) I can see how helicopter parents might see this as "obusive"—God forbid kids today take some responsibility for more than their PS3 addiction.

While anxious parents point out that kids got rashes and sunburns, and one was spattered with grease while cooking, CBS is quick to remind us that not only were adult film technicians constantly filming/supervising them, but paramedics, a pediatrician, a child psychologist, and animal safety experts were also always on site.

Other than an "oops" incident of a kid accidentally ingesting bleach (his fault, no harm done), I tend to agree with CBS that these abuse allegations are a tempest in a teacup. The real question is whether this publicity will spell a ratings bonanza for CBS, whose other genre-defining shows such as *Big Brother* and *Survivor* have been lagging.

Now the New Mexico State Attorney's Office has opened an investigation into the show to see if the producers violated child labour laws, among other things. The children in question each received at least \$5,000 to be part of *Kid Nation*, but I wonder if some parents are hoping for a bigger paycheque after a class action law-

## TELEPROMPTER

NICOLA SIMPSON KHULLAR

suit.

If you step back and look at it realistically, though, aren't all reality shows abusive? People would trample their first-born to get in line for dangerous and embarrassing situations on television. Even shows that are supposed to be inspirational, like *The Biggest Loser*, don't show the contestants throwing up repeatedly after five hours on the treadmill. So are these people gullible, or just idiots?

I worked with a trainer once who was a contestant on the first season of *Average Joe*. He was convinced that his experience on the show gave him the motivation to transform himself from shlib to stud, and now he's a not-so-average Joe who makes a good living helping other people improve themselves. So I know that not all reality shows cast morons.

Then again, maybe that's part of the attraction of reality TV—watching relatively ordinary people persevere through outrageous scenarios while we watch on the couch and say to each other, "Man, am I ever glad I didn't have to choose between the slug fracas and the flaming bamboo manicure." And that's what's making people uncomfortable about *Kid Nation*, including lawmakers. It's one thing for adults to sign over their lives and good sense, but it's questionable for parents to do that on behalf of their children.

At what point do these "performers" require an ombudsman? Maybe they need more than a producer on set saying, "Yeah, we know that eating rate is a little skeevy, but you signed a contract, so scarf it down!" So the New Mexico authorities are right in investigating the show. Reality shows are as far from reality as you can get, especially when kids are involved.

Frankly, the only reality show that I would ever want to be on is *The Amazing Race* (and maybe *Top Chef*). At least then the rats would be cultured, and seasoned well.



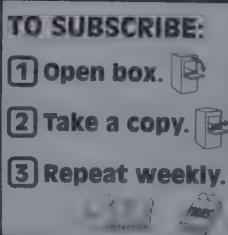
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Music: *Guys Take Her To See This One She'll Love You For It* Inc.

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# capsule film reviews

## ARCTIC TALE

Prime evidence of *March of the Penguins'* pemicous effect on wildlife documentaries. The imagery is stunning, but the pop-music soundtrack and Queen Latifah's cloying, comball narration are almost unbearable. Unwallowable, too.

★★★☆☆

## BECOMING JANE

*Shakespeare in Love* meets *Pride and Prejudice* in this fluffy romance starring Anne

Hathaway as a lovesick young Jane Austen. Pleasant enough, but designed more for chick-lit fans than people who've actually read Austen's novels.

★★★☆☆

## THE DUCHESS WITNESS

If there's a more exciting sight than Matt Damon running down streets, leaping through windows, driving cars off rooftops and beating up hired assassins using nothing more than a book, we don't want to know

about it. Our hearts couldn't take it.

★★★★★

## FLASHDANCE

A latex-encased John Travolta is no substitute for Divine. This musical version of John Waters' 1988 camp classic is a conformist salute to nonconformity, but at least the songs are great.

★★★★★

## HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX

The longest, gaggiest Potter book becomes the shortest, most dramatically effective Potter movie: now there's a magic trick for you. Director David Yates may be Harry Potter's most valuable ally since Sirius Black.

★★★★☆

## HOT FROG

What's funny on YouTube isn't quite as amusing on the big screen.

★★★☆☆

## THE INVASION

The scariest thing in this tepid remake of *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* is a brief glimpse on CNN of Hugo Chavez hugging George W. Bush. Otherwise, yawn—except for the scene where Jeremy Northam vomits into Nicole Kidman's mouth.

★★★☆☆

## THE LAST LEGION

Too many schools foil the Goths.

★★★★★

## THE BEANIE'S HOLIDAY

It's just like *Jacques Tati*, only crappy and unfunny!

★★★☆☆

## THE NANNY DIARIES

A surprisingly thoughtful look at class issues

★★★★★

about it. Our hearts couldn't take it.

★★★★★

## THE NANNY DEAREST

Scarlett Johansson invents a new genre sure to see it now before every dumb fratboy in town starts wearing "McLovin" T-shirts.

★★★★★

## THE RESURRECTING CHAMP

Not a sports movie, as the poster would have you believe, but a journalism movie. And not just a journalism movie, but a "feel-good" journalism movie that tries to excuse its hero for the kind of sloppy reporting that ought to have ended his career immediately.

★★★★★

## THE SIMPSONS MOVIE

It neither sucks nor blows. In fact, it's consistently, upbraidingly funny—which is more than you can say for the TV series lately. Credit the brisk pace and tight sight gags (including some hilarious prepubescent cartoon nudity) to director David Silverman—or at least his non-union Mexican equivalent.

★★★★★

## THE SPIDER

Claire Danes, Michelle Pfeiffer, Robert De Niro and Peter O'Toole all appear in this strenuously whimsical fantasy in *The Princess Bride* vein. Not quite as magical as it thinks it is, but you know what? Neither was *The Princess Bride*.

★★★☆☆

## THE SPIDER

This jubilantly raunchy teen comedy is as consistently hilarious as anything else from the Judd Apatow comedy factory—but be

★★★★★

## THE SPIDER

I'd rather sit at a trucker's stop somewhere outside Salinas for five hours over multiplying botflies and rice and beans getting cold to hear Jack Burton tell his own version of how he shook the pillars of heaven and got, then gave up, the girl." —Bruce Reid

★★★★★

## THE SPIDER

"The Cook, the Thief, His Wife, and Her Lover created a dreamworld that haunted me. In real life, somebody (anybody, please!) would have killed Michael Gambon in the first reel, but in the nightmarish world the movie posits, his power reigns supreme. I felt trapped and helpless. I couldn't wake up. All Greenaway is ridiculously pretentious. One reason *The Cook* works so well for me is that, unlike his other films, it's able to work on a level as basic as its title." —Wagstaff

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"Goodbye Dragon Inn. A rainy night in a cavernous, haunted movie theatre in Taipei. What could be more dreamlike?" —JL

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"Picnic at Hanging Rock!!! Those damn rocks! I can never solve the mystery in my daydreams either. Also: the drawing that's really a place in Bernard Rose's *Paperhouse*. And Jonathan Glazer's *Birth*. I always want to step into that picture, hold Nicole Kidman in my arms and make her forget the past." —Peet

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# listings

PHONE: 430-9003 FAX: 432-1102 EMAIL: info@see.greatwest.ca DEADLINE: FRIDAY 5 PM

## LIVE MUSIC

### ALTERNATIVE

AVENUE SKATEPARK 9030 118 Ave, Black Dog 10425-82 Ave, 439-1082 — Sat Coca Love Acm.

BLACKSPOT CAFE 15120A Story Plain Rd, 481-7768 — Thu The Last Scene w/ Arbitus Tho and Illini Outfit; Sat American Chess/Chanda Cooper Evening, Tue Crows Glory, Think Don't Pray, Breakaway, Messy Life, Wednesdays Dialogue Wednesday fea. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jen.

HALO 10538 Jasper Ave. — Saturdays Junior Brown, Nest Delano, Luke Morrison & guests.

NEW CITY 10081 Jasper Ave, Palladium Building, 429-CLUB — Fri The Rebar Family Reunion, Sun Youth Brigade, The Wednesday Night Heroes, Homewreckers and On The Brink, Mon Nashville Pussy, The Get Down and Dirty Habit; Wed New Jacobin Club, Noykr.

RENDEZVOUS 10108-149 St, 444-1822 — Fri Desiderata w/ Ghost House, Baby Control and Animal Names; Sat Oh Snap! Weekly Kick-off Party w/ DJ Assault, Deadline and Wizard.

URBAN LOUNGE THE ONT ON WHITE 10544 White Ave, 437-7699 — The B-Movies, Fri Mustard Smile.

VELVET UNDERGROUND 10030-102 St, 428-7827 — Thursdays NIMBUS WLCM w/ Nik & Shoot Out Cut Out Out, Fri The Mutators w/ Joey Casio and Copper's Cobras; Sat Jone Vain & the Dark Matter; Tuesdays Shakedown with DJ Generic; Wednesdays Panic with the J-bots.

WUNDERBAR HOFBRAUHAUS 8120-101 St, 436-2286

### BLUES & ROOTS

AXIS CAFE 10349 Jasper Ave, 990-0031 — www.axiscafe.ca

BLUE CHAIR CAFE 9624-76 Ave, 989-2861

BLUES ON WHITE 10329-82 Ave, 439-5039 — Thu Sat Off Out, Sundays The Red Antz; Mon-Wed Matchstick Miles on the Chain Smoking Allbarrys.

CASTLE ROCK PUB 570 St. Albert Rd. — Thursdays A Knight at the Round Table w/ Sir George.

CARROT COMMUNITY ARTS COFFEEHOUSE Corner of 94 & 118 Ave. — Fri Terry Morrison.

EDDIE SHORTS 10713-124 St, 453-3663 — Fri Pub Jibaro; Sat 7 and 7, Wednesdays The Mary Thomas Band fea. Brian Patch.

FRESH START CAFE 448 Riverbank Square, 433-9623 — Fri Rob Heath & Elise and Spencer Heath.

HILLTOP PUB 8220-106 Ave, 940-7359

HOOLIGANZ PUB 10704-124 St.

OVERDRIVE NEIGHBORHOOD PUB 6104-104 St., 988-5457

SECOND CUP Gateway Plaza, 10310-34 Ave., 485-3100 — Mondays live music.

WHISTLESTOP LOUNGE 12416-132 Ave, 451-5506

XWRECKS 10143-50 St, 466-8069

### JAZZ

FOUR ROOMS 137 Edm City Centre East, 426-4767

HUBERT'S 7601-115 St, 436-1161 — The Ron Taylor; Fri Lab Hands Trio, Info: www.huberts.ca.

JEFFRIES CAFE & WINE BAR 9640-142 St, 451-8890 — Fri Steven Colborne.

ULIAN'S PIANO BAR Chateau Louis, 11727 Kingsway Ave, 452-7770 — The Fri Graham Lawrence; Sat Dennis Begoray.

THE IVORY CLUB & LOUNGE 2940 Calgary Tr. South, 465-6800 — Dueling piano shows every Fri 8 pm, Fri & Sat 9 pm, Info: theivoryclub.com.

YARDBIRD SUITE 10203-86 Ave, 432-0428 — Closed until September.

### POP & ROCK

BACKDRAUGHT PUB 8307-99 St, 430-9200 — Fri

The McGowans; Sat Lost of the Bad Men, Fat Dave Crime Wave and Doggers.

CASINO EDMONTON 7055 Argyle Rd., 463-9467 — Fri & Sat Catalyst.

CASINO YELLOWLOW 12464-153 St, 424-9467 — Fri & Sat Sleepers.

JEKYLL & HYDE 10810-100 Ave, 426-5381 — Fri & Sat Headwind.

JET NIGHTCLUB & SPORTS LOUNGE 9221-34 Ave, 466-6552 — Fri & Sat A Little Bitter.

METRO BILLARDS 10250-106 St, 990-0704 — www.metrobillards.com.

ON THE ROCKS 11740 Jasper Ave, 482-4767 — Fri-Sun Ratt Potato.

THE DOCKS Londonerry Mall, 476-DOCK — Saturdays live bands.

### PUB MUSIC

ATLANTIC TRAP & GILL 7704-104 St, 432-4611 — Fri & Sat Jason Greeley; Wednesdays Open mic with Duff.

LOCKER ROOM PUB 10209-100th Ave — Fridays & Sundays Live music.

O'BYRNES IRISH PUB 10616-82 Ave, 414-6766 — Men Slow Burn, Wednesdays Chris Wynters w/ guitars.

ROSE & CROWN PUB 10235-101 St, 426-7827

SHERLOCK HOLMES Bourbon St, 96M, 444-1752

SHERLOCK HOLMES Capilano Mall, 463-7788

SHERLOCK HOLMES Downtown, 10012-101A St, 426-7784

## DANCE CLUBS

### ALTERNATIVE

BACKROOM VODKA BAR upstairs, 10324-82 Ave, 436-4418 — Thu Electro Education w/ DJ Lazzerbeam, trip hop, dub, lounge, electro & IDM mash-up, drink specials Fri Funky Fridays w/ Phils & Friends, Sat Body & Soul Saturdays w/ Remo De Janeiro, Waylon Sherrington, & weekly guests.

BOOTS 10242-106 St, 423-5014 — Open 7 days/week, Happy Hour: 3 to 8 pm Fri Retro Disco Sat Flashback Saturdays w/ DJs Derrick & Munny Muttato, Mole Stripper, 11 pm

BUDDY'S NIGHT CLUB 11728 Jasper Ave, 488-7736 — Open Nightly 9-3 Sun Rotating drag shows in the Stardust Lounge w/ Ms Brown & Mz Vanity Fair, Godiva & Donatella NEF in the Godiva Room, DJ WestCoastBabyDaddy Fri DJ Eddy Amante, Strip Contest w/ Miss Fellow & DJ WestCoastBabyDaddy Tue Free pool & tournament, DJ Amacher Wednesday Hump Day w/ DJ SexyX Sian The Wet Undies contest w/ Miss Fellow & DJ WestCoastBabyDaddy Fri DJ Eddy Toonfella Dance Party, no cover before 10 pm Sat Union Night (men only) pool & tournament, DJ Amacher.

DEVIN'S BISTRO 17328 Story Plain Road, 486-4448 — Fri Flirt Fridays text messaging singles party Sat DJ Johnny Sky. Closed Sun, Info: www.daniesbistro.com.

DEVIN'S 10507-82 Ave, 437-7489 — Happy hour until 7 pm every night.

DEWEY'S Powerplant 10087-82 Ave, Mon-Wed 9 am - 2 pm, Thu 9 am - 2 pm, Fri 9 am - 3 pm.

FILTHY MONASTY 10087-82 Ave, 437-7489 — Happy Hour Every Day 5 - 9 pm Mon

Metal Mondays Twisted Trivia Wed Bar star

college night Thu Rock Punk Rock Bingo Fri & Sat Shake Yo' Ass Weekend w/ DJ Sencil K (dance, old, rock, retro) Sun Industry night half price everything

HALO 10538 Jasper Ave, 423-4256 — Fri The Mod Club - Soul, R&B, indie, Brit pop, new wave, reggae & classic punk w/ DJs Blue Joy & Tracy D Sat For Those Who Know - House music fest. Junior Brown, Luke Morrison, and Nestor Delano.

JET NIGHTCLUB & SPORTS LOUNGE 9221-34 Ave, 466-6552 — Fri & Sat live bands, plus a mix of modern rock.

LEVEL 2 LOUNGE 11607 Jasper Ave. — Thu The Dish

Thursdays Colin Hargraves, Krazy K, Decha and Savage, Gametari Fri Formula Fridays DJ Groovy Guy, DJ Fuzz Sat Solar Planet Indigo Suggestive

Saturdays, breakie electro house spun by PI residents.

NEW CITY UKWID LOUNGE 10081 Jasper Ave, 429-CLUB — Mon-Mon on Metal Mondays Tue

In The Kraut w/ Dr. Erick, mod & R&B, northern soul 60s garage & mod revival Wed Robot DJ 3000

Thu Bridge of Bingo w/ Devera Nebula & Anarchy

Adam Fri Friday Night Fresh Out w/ DJ Debus & Anarchy Adam of CIS & G-Wiz Sat Rock 'n' Roll/Heaven n' Hell w/ Nazz Nomad & Beard of Bees

NEW CITY SUBURBS 10081 Jasper Ave, 429-CLUB — Thu I Love 80s Fri Bitch Bitch w/ DJ

Dervish, Plan B Sat Saturdays Suck w/ Greg Gary & Blue Joy Wed Diwosdays 4 original bands.

ON THE ROCKS 11740 Jasper Ave, 482-4767 —

The Salsa Thursdays w/ DJ Roper & Elsere, free beginner lesson 9 pm, Fri DJ Shevribis Sat DJ

Donjuan Mon Drinik the bar dry Karaoke Wed Wings All Day happy hour. Hours: Mon-Sun, 11 am - 2 am.

PRISM BAR & GRILL 10524-101 St, 990-0038 — Wed Wings Fri Sports Invitational, Call for upcoming events.

RED STAR 10534 Jasper Ave. — Thu Junior Brown.

SAVOY PUB 10401-82 Ave, 438-0373 — Hours:

Mon-Sat 4 pm - 2 am.

STARLINE ROOM 10030-102 St, 428-1099 — Live music, Thu-Sat. Visit starlineroom.ca for show info.

TANTRA MYSTIC EXOTICA LOUNGE 10147-82 Ave, 434-8699 — Mon — Thu 5 pm - Midnight, Fri & Sat 5 pm - 2 am (Dancing 10 pm - 2 am)

THE ATTIC 10407-82 Ave, 433-1969 — Wed Hi-ball Night Thu Student Night.

THE ELEPHANT & CASTLE ON WHITE 10314-82 Ave, 439-4545 — Open 7 days a week, Info: www.elephantandcastle.ca

THE ROOST 10035-104 St, 426-7150 — Thu

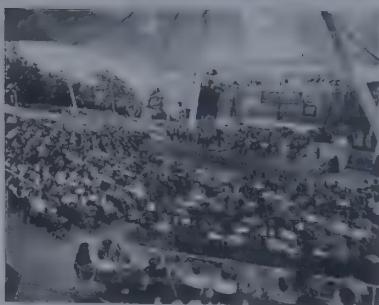
Georgeous Hostess, Hoobie McBoobie, drag king & queen, amateur strip last Thu of the month Fri All

request dance party w/ DJ Jazzy & rotating shows

COMING

EIGHT DAYS  
A WEEK

PICK OF THE WEEK



### SYMPHONY UNDER THE SKY

#### HAWLAK PARK

The 12th anniversary of the ESO's Labour Day weekend extravaganza. This year's lineup features The Arrogant Worms, classical masterpieces, and fun for families. Aug 31-Sep 3

THURSDAY

30

### WILD FIBRES

#### VAAA GALLERY

"An Unlined Exhibit" featuring a collection of items created from natural and recycled fibres. Runs through Sep 29. (3rd Fl., 10215-112 St.)

FRIDAY

31

### DESIDERATA

#### STARLINE ROOM

Hometown jam champs headline with guests Ghost House, Baby Control and Animal Names (10030-102 St.)

SATURDAY

1

### IRSHAD KHAN

#### ROYAL ALBERT MUSEUM

One of the world's foremost sitar and surbahar (bass sitar) players visits the RAB with an eclectic mix of classical Indian music, folk tunes, and New Age melodies. (12844-103 Ave.)

SUNDAY

2

### YOUTH BRIGADE

#### NEW CITY

Hollywood's Steel brothers reunite, bringing their customary punk-rock critiques. Wednesday Night Heroes, Homewreckers, and On the Brink open. (10080 Jasper Ave.)

MONDAY

3

### 3-DAY NOVEL CONTEST

#### CHAPTERS, SOUTH POINT

Witness the madness: 12 writers each attempt to pen a novel while living amidst retail hell in BookTelevision's truly insane reality competition.

TUESDAY

4

### THE 11TH HOUR

#### GARNEAU THEATRE

Yet another celeb-exploiting eco-doc, giving us more ideas on how to slow down those inconvenient truths of the industrial world, and commentary from the DiCappio himself. (8712-109 St.)

WEDNESDAY

5

### THE OFFERING

#### HARCOURT HOUSE

Adrian Cooley's surreal sculptures examine the ingrained patterns of human action. Also showing: Temporary Geography, Shannon Collis' layered prints and photography. (10215-112 St.)

NEXT THURSDAY

6

### DO THE RIGHT THING

#### METRO CINEMA

Spike Lee's 1989 exposé on race relations in New York, showing with Edmonton Film School's student shorts. (Gradel Complex)

## GIGS AT A GLANCE

### THURSDAY 30

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ The Lost Scene w/ Arbatus Trio and Illit Quilt, URBAN LOUNGE B-Mores, VELVET & KARROK INRUMS WLCM w/ Nik 7 of Shout Out Out Out, BLUES ON WHITE Bf Burt, CASTLE ROCK PUB Sir George, HULBERT'S Ron Taylor, JULIAN'S PIANO BAR Graham Lawrence

### FRIDAY 31

NEW CITY The Rebar Family Reunion, STARLITE ROOM Residents w/ Ghost House, Baby Control and Animal Names; URBAN LOUNGE Mustard Smile, VELVET UNDERGROUND The Mutants w/ Joey Case and Cooper Cobras, BLUES ON WHITE 5f Burt, CARROT COMMUNITY ARTS COFFEEHOUSE Terry Morrison, EDDIE SHORTS Sour Abalone, FRESH START CAFE Rob Heath w/ Elle and Spencer Heem, HULBERT'S Ian Hobbs, JEFFREYS CAFE Stephan Coborne, JUAN'S PIANO BAR Graham Lawrence, BACKDRAUGHT PUB The McGowans, CASINO EDMONTON Catalyst, CASINO YELLOWHEAD Sleepers, Jekyll & Hyde Headwind; JET NIGHTCLUB A Little Bitter, ON THE ROCKS Rott Posson, ATLANTIC TRAP & GILL Jason Greeley.

### SATURDAY 1

BLACK DOG Coop Love Alarm, HALO Junior Brown, Nester Delano, Luke Morrison & guests; STABLE ROOM Oh Snap!, Weezy Kidnoff Party w/ DJ Assault, Deadline and Wizard, VELVET UNDERGROUND Jones Vain & the Dark Master, BLUES ON WHITE Bf Burt, EDDIE SHORTS 7 and 7, BACKDRAUGHT

Set Always like New Year's Eve, DJ Jazzy upstairs (new music), DJ Dan downstairs (intro) Sun Freshlook Sundays w/ hostesses Miss Bianca, Vanity Fair & guests. Hours: Sun & Thu, 8 pm - 3 am; Fri & Sat, 8 pm - 4 am, closed Mon-Wed. Info: [www.thesoundstudiosub.com](http://www.thesoundstudiosub.com).

TWILIGHT AFTERHOURS 10018-105 St., 990-1792

— Fri 2 am - 7 am Sat 2 am - 8 am

UNION HALL Argyle & 99th, 702-0318 — The Hi-ball specials Fri Ladies Night Sat 1 'N' A Saturdays.

VELVET UNDERGROUND 10030-102 St., 428-7827

— Wed Panic w/ The Bots Thru NRUMS WLCM w/ DJ Nik 7. The Rock Down: monthly bashups by

Subterranean Sound, feat. glitch hop, dubstep,

breaks, hiphop, dancehall, reggae, drum & bass &

mucho.

WUNDERBAR HOFLAUBHAUS 8120 - 101 St., 436-2286 — Tues Hipster Twister Wed Round One feat. DJ Toma & Aminder Brown Thru Alternating Jam

PUB Lost of the Bad Men, Fat Dave Crime Wave and Doggers, CASINO EDMONTON Catalyst, CASINO YELLOWHEAD Sleepers, JET NIGHTCLUB A Little Bitter, ON THE ROCKS Rott Posson, ATLANTIC TRAP & GILL Jason Greeley.

### SUNDAY 2

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Afternoon Chess/Chanda Cooper Evening, NEW CITY Youth Brigade, The Wednesday Night Heroes, Homebrewers and On The Brink, BLUES ON WHITE The Red Antz, Jekyll & Hyde White Summer, ON THE ROCKS Rott Posson

### MONDAY 3

NEW CITY Nashville Pussy, The Get Down and Dirty Habit, BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys, O'BRYNES Slowburn.

### TUESDAY 4

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Cross Glory, Think Don't Pray, Breakaway, Messy Life; VELVET UNDERGROUND Shakedown with DJ Generic, BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys.

### WEDNESDAY 5

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### THURSDAY 6

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### FRIDAY 7

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### SATURDAY 8

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### SUNDAY 9

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### MONDAY 10

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### TUESDAY 11

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### WEDNESDAY 12

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### THURSDAY 13

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### FRIDAY 14

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### SATURDAY 15

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### SUNDAY 16

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### MONDAY 17

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### TUESDAY 18

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### WEDNESDAY 19

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### THURSDAY 20

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### FRIDAY 21

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### SATURDAY 22

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### SUNDAY 23

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### MONDAY 24

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### TUESDAY 25

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### WEDNESDAY 26

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### THURSDAY 27

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### FRIDAY 28

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### SATURDAY 29

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### SUNDAY 30

BLACKSPOT CAFÉ Dialogue Wednesday feat. Well Put, Location Revolution, Prosper, Jam: NEW CITY New Jacobin Club, Naylor; VELVET UNDERGROUND Panic with the J-Boz; BLUES ON WHITE Matchstick Mike and the Chain Smoking Allaborboys; EDDIE SHORTS The Many Thomas Band feat. Brian Patch; O'BRYNES Chris Winters w/ guests.

### SPORTSWORLD INLINE & ROLLER SKATING DISCO

13710-104 St., 472-6334 — Tues RETRO NIGHT hosted by Shade Fri Top 40 Request w/ a mix of Retro & Disco hosted by Jam Skater Shor On Sat 1-5 pm, top 40 midnight, top 40 Request w/ a mix of Retro & Disco hosted by Special K & Shade Sun 1-5 pm, top 40 Request w/ a mix of Retro & Disco hosted by Special K. Special for Birthday parties. Info: [www.sports-world.ca](http://www.sports-world.ca)

STOLLY'S 10389-82 Ave., 473-2293 — Sun House Arrest w/ Johnny Dangerous, Andy Inertia w/ guests Wed Wild Cherry Wednesdays w/ Trippin' with Recredit Funk, Steve Velocity, Fusion.

STONEHOUSE PUB 11026-103 Ave., 420-0448 — Fri & Sat DJ Set Sat 103 St., 439-6969 — Wed Sat 70s & '80s music.

THE BANK ULTRA LOUNGE 10765 Jasper Ave., 906-7939 — Thu Salsa Style Fridays Fri Connected Fridays, local house & international guest DJs.

THE DOCKS (Lower) 10300-101 St., 476-2000 — Fri Red Fridays. Military appreciation night Sat Saturday Night Live. Live bands Tue Karaoke.

THE FOX PUB 10125-109 St., 909-0860 — Fri & Sat DJ retro tunes for everyone Sun live music.

THE FRAT 10320-102 St., 428-3733 — Sat Sorority Saturday Tue Karaoke Night.

THE GUILTY MARTINI SOUTH 10338-81 Ave., 433-7183 — The Urban Substation Thursdays w/ Invincible, J-Money, Shortround & Echo Sun Supreme Saturdays w/ Invincible, Big Sun & DJ Come. Open Sunday long weekends, live DJ every night.

THE NEW RUM PHASE II WEM 482-9494 — Thu Urban Substation Fri Sat Top 40 Sun Industry Sundays.

THE NEW TAHOUSE 9020 90th Street, St. Albert 458-0860 — Fri DJ Slimfizz & Lil' Jord.

THE ONE ON WHITE/URBAN LOUNGE 10544-82 Ave., 437-7699 — Thu-Sun & Wed live bands. [www.urbanlounge.net](http://www.urbanlounge.net)

THE PARROT 812 101st Street, St. Albert — The Planet Indigo presents Hit it Thursdays, breaks electro house spins Fri & Sat residents.

THE STANDARD 107-104 St., 438-1800 — Wed Standard Issue Wednesdays The Limited edition, various DJs & events Fri Hammer B & DJ Kweake. Info: [www.the-standard.ca](http://www.the-standard.ca)

THE TAP 1000-101 St., 426-5555 — Fri DJ Rock Saturday.

CHROME LOUNGE #104, 550 Clareview Rd., 414-1111 — Tue Karaoke Sat Soma Saturdays.

FEVER WEM, Phaze — Wed Industry Night Fri Global Fridays, Harmon B & DJ Kweake. Sat Sunday Night Fever w/ Shoker & Cpt. Ron. Info: [www.fermvguitar.com](http://www.fermvguitar.com)

FLUID LOUNGE 10888 Jasper Ave., 429-0700 — Mac Mover, Wed Rock This, The Girls Night Out, Fri Neon Lights hosted by Connected Entertainment, Sat Gone Gold Mash Up w/ Harmon B & DJ Kweake. Info: [www.fluidlounge.com](http://www.fluidlounge.com)

FUNKY BUDDHA 10341-82 Ave. - Tue Cool Latin Tuesdays, dance lessons at 8 pm.

GINGER SKY LOUNGE 11505-118 Ave. — Every Thu The Urban Substation Thursday w/ Urban Substance Sound Crew. Info: [www.gingersky.com](http://www.gingersky.com)

GLOBE TAB & GRILL 10045-109 St., 426-7711 — Fri & Sat Rock The Globe weekends Wed World Wing Wednesdays Half Price Pub Nite.

H2O SPORTS BAR & LOUNGE 10044-82 Ave., 433-5794 — Tue, Thu, Sat & Sun Karaoke.

IRON HORSE 8101-103 St., 436-1907 — Fri DJ Loose Cannon Sat Urban dance party w/ DJ 420.

KEEP IT SIMPLE CLUB 11720-82 St., 471-4705 — Fri & Sat Clean & sober dances, 8:30 pm-12:30 am, \$2 cover.

RATT 7th Floor SUB bldg, U of A Campus — Sat Athletes night w/ DJ Kriegs

### COUNTRY

COOK COUNTY SALOON 8010-103 St., 432-COOK (2665) — Thu-Sat and special event nights, open at 8 pm. Ladies in free before 10 pm. Info: [www.cookcountysalon.com](http://www.cookcountysalon.com)

COBWAYS COUNTRY SALOON 10180-180 St., 481-8739 — Country/Top 40, dress code in effect, \$5 cover charge.

OIL CITY ROADHOUSE Jasper Ave. & 108 St. — Info: [www.oilcityroadhouse.com](http://www.oilcityroadhouse.com)

WILD WEST SALOON 12912-50 St., 476-3388 — Wed Free beginners dance lessons 8:30-9:30 pm Thu Free intermediate dance lessons 7:30-9:30 pm.

pm.

WORLDRUNNER 10018-109 St. — 7 pm — 10 pm, hosted by Tommy. Info: [www.morangostek-cakes.com](http://www.morangostek-cakes.com)

### CONCERTS

MUSIC AT CONVENTION HALL — Sep 7, 8 pm Convocation Hall, U of A Campus. The first concert of the season, featuring violinist Virginia Gangne and Michael Massey on piano.

SURBAHAR AND STAR CONCERT — Sep 1, 7:30 pm Royal Alberta Museum Auditorium, 12845

102nd Ave. Featuring Canadian artists Inhad Khan. Tickets \$20 at the door

SYMPHONY UNDER THE SKY — Aug 31-Sep 3 Hawrelak Park, 9330 Groar Rd. The Edmonton Symphony Orchestra brings the classics outdoors to the Heritage Amphitheatre. Info: 428-1108

### OPEN STAGE

180° RESTAURANT & NIGHTCLUB 10730-107 Ave., 414-0233 — Every Thu Hip Hop & open mic.

BACKDRAUGHT PUB 8307-99 St., 430-9200 — Open mic at 9 pm, everyone welcome.

BUND PIG PUB 32 St. Anne St., St. Albert — Moosehead New-age open stage w/ hosts West of Winnipeg, 9 pm-1 am.

DUSTERS PUB 6402-118 Ave. — Open stage hosted by The Wild Rose Old Tyme Fiddlers Association. Info: [www.wildroseoldtyme.com](http://www.wildroseoldtyme.com)

NAKED CYBER CAFE & ESPRESSO BAR 10354 Jasper Ave., 425-9730 — Open stage 8 pm, bring your own instruments, poetry, etc.

NORTH GLENORA COMMUNITY LEAGUE 13535-109A Ave. — Jam session 7 pm, hosted by the Wild Rose Old Tyme Fiddlers Association. Info: [www.wildroseoldtyme.com](http://www.wildroseoldtyme.com)

RAY 457-9417.

### SATURDAY

BLUES ON WHITE 10339-82 Ave., 439-5058 — Blues jam 3-8:30 pm.

CASTLE ROCK PUB 570 St. Albert Rd., 458-8766 — Showers open stage hosted by Simon Bennett and the Castle Rockers, 3-8 pm.

CORONA COFFEE STATION Jasper Ave. & 108 St., 448-1051 — 3rd Sat every month, Arts & Poetry night. Musicians, visual artists, spoken word, poets and dancers welcome. Info: [eshart@hotmail.com](mailto:eshart@hotmail.com)

MORANGO'S TEA CAFE 10118-79 St. — 7 pm — 10 pm, hosted by Tommy. Info: [www.morangostek-cakes.com](http://www.morangostek-cakes.com)

### SUNDAY

CASTLE ROCK PUB 570 St. Albert Rd., 458-8766 — Open jam hosted by Dave Barry and Gator.

CROWN & ANCHOR PUB 1527 Castledowns Rd., 472-7696 — Open jam & auditions to play at C&A 3 pm.

DUSTERS PUB 6402-118 Ave. — Open stage hosted by The Wild Rose Old Tyme Fiddlers Association. Info: [www.wildroseoldtyme.com](http://www.wildroseoldtyme.com)

EDDIE SHORTS 10713-124 St., 453-3668 — Live jam with Rob Taylor, 9 pm. Instruments and gear provided.

HOOLIGANZ PUB 10704-124 St., 452-1168 — Afternoon jam hosted by Rodan Roll Kenny.

NEWCASTLE PUB & GRILL 6108-90 Ave., 490-1999 — Open Stage w/ Willie James & Crawdad, 3 pm - 6 pm.

O'BRYNES IRISH PUB 10616-82 Ave., 414-6766 —

WIN TICKETS  
TO THE ADVANCE SCREENING

Monday Sept 11th @ 7:00 pm

Cineplex North Edmonton

In Theaters September 14th

See You On Sept 4 @ noon to receive a free double guest

screening pass to the advance screening

Limited Availability

Open Stage hosted by Joe Bird, 9 pm.  
TODDY'S LOUNGE & EATERY 11361 Jasper Ave., 488-0984 — Open mic, 9:30 pm.

## MONDAY

HUBERT'S 7001-115 St., 436-1161 — 7-10 pm.  
open mic hosted by Rhonda March.

LB'S PUB 23 Alberta St., 450-9100 — Mon  
Open stage w/ LB's house band.

PLEASANTVIEW HALL 10860-57 Ave. — 7 pm  
Acoustic Instrumental old time fiddle jam hosted by the Wild Rose Old Time Fiddlers Society. Info: Willy @ 474-5270.

THE NORT CLUB 2940 Calgary Trail, 465-6800 —

Open Stage w/ Marty Vinko, 8 pm.

## TUESDAY

CASTLEROCK PUB 570 St. Albert Rd., 458-8766 —  
Moosehead Freeway jam, 8:30 pm. Hosted by Mark Ammar, Dale Collins & Neil Mackenzie.  
Weekly featured guests.

SECOND CUP Church Square — 7:30 pm hosted by Ron Taylor.

## WEDNESDAY

ATLANTIC TRAP & GILL 7704-104 St., 432-4611 —  
Open mic 8 pm, hosted by Duff.

CAFE BRITT 1-20 McLeod Ave, Spruce Grove —

Every Wed, 7-9 pm. Hosted by Paul LePage.

EDDIE SHORTS 10713-124 St., 453-3663 — Open

jam, all gear provided.

HOOGLANZ PUB 10704-124 St., 452-1168 — 7:30 pm, hosted by Rodin Roll Kenny.

LITTLE FLOWER OPEN STAGE Fiddler's Root, 8906-99 St. — 8 pm, Hosted by Brian Gregg. \$2 cover, doors 7:30 pm. Info: [www.littleflower.ca](http://www.littleflower.ca) or 429-3624.

PLEASANTVIEW HALL 10860-57 Ave. — Bluegrass jam session 7:30 pm hosted by the Northern Bluegrass Circle Music Society. Info: 434-5997.

RIVERSIDE BAR & GRILL 367 St. Albert Rd., 460-1122 — Wednesday Night Live. Hosted by Barbara May with Jeff Neeser, Jones Wyrill, Wendy Dekker, and the Tumpling Dicks. Open to comedians, musicians & bands. Sound check 7:30 pm, show 8:10 pm.

THE NEW TAPOUSE 9020 McKinley Ave., St. Albert, 458-0860 — Jam session 9:30 pm, hosted by Danny Floyd.

## KARAOKE

B-STREET BAR 11818-111 Ave., 414-0545 — Wed Sun w/ Brad Scott.

BUND PUB 32 St. Anne St., St. Albert 418-6332 — Karaoke every Wed & Fri w/ Shelly.

BUD'S LOUNGE Capilano Mall, 98 Ave. & 50 St. — Fri & Sat, 9 pm — 1-30 am w/ Mr. Entertainment.

CASTLEROCK PUB 570 St. Albert Rd. — Wed, 9 pm 1 am, w/ Off Key Entertainment.

CASTLEROCK PUB 570 St. Albert Rd. — Wed, 9 pm 1 am. All Fired Up Karaoke.

CHRISTOPHER'S PUB 2021 Melbourne Rd. — Tue, 9 pm w/ Sonja/Prosound Productions Inc. Call Lisa or Kelly, 462-6565.

CHROME LOUNGE 104, 550 Conneway Rd. 414-1111 — Thu, 10 pm — 2 am. Duke Boys.

Entertainment w/ Phil.

CROWN & ANCHOR PUB 15277 Castledowns Rd., 472-7595 — Thu 9 pm Ha Ha Off Comedy, 10:30 pm karaoke.

CLIFF'S PUB & PANTRY 8214-175 St. 487-8887 — Sat & Sun w/ Hosted by Krata, Liquid Entertainment.

DOYLE'S PUB 151 Ave. & Victoria Trail — Fri, 10 pm 2 am w/ Coffy. Sat 10 pm-2 am w/ Ewan.

ECCO PUB 9805-65 Ave. Mon, 9 pm w/ Sonja/Prosound Productions.

ELEMENT LOUNGE 10807-106 Ave. 420-1530 — Wed, 9 pm.

FORT GAMING LOUNGE & SPORTS BAR 13403-Fort Rd., 406-2916 — Fri, 9 pm-1 am. Hosted by Angel How.

FOX PUB 10125-109 St. 990-0680 — Tue, 9 pm

Drink spreads all night!  
FUNKY BUDDHA 10341-82 Ave. Sun 9:30 pm w/ Mr. Entertainment.

H2O SPORTS BAR & LOUNGE 10044-82 Ave. 433-5794 — Tue, Thu Sat & Sun.

HAWKEYES TOO 10044-102 St. — Fri, 8 pm Hot Karaoke Productions.

HEAVY BUE 106 Ave 480-7359 — Wed 9:30 pm.

HOOGAUNZ PUB 10125-109 St. — Fri, 9 pm.

JUGS PUB 10044-102 St. — Sat 9 pm.

KEEP IT SIMPLE KIDS CLUB 11720-102 St. — Tue & Sun 9 pm.

MONA LISA PUB 9900-118 Ave. 477-7752 — Thu Sat, 9 pm.

MONA LISA PUB 9900-118 Ave. 477-7752 — Thu Sat, 9 pm.

THE NEW TAPOUSE 9020 McKinley Ave., St. Albert, 458-0860.

Open by Joy & Mr. Entertainment.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PUB 818-101 St. — Sat 104 St. 988-5457 — Sat, 9 pm. Hosted by Jenine Joy.

PEPPERS 320 Westmount Centre, 113 Ave. & 135 St. 451-8022 — Thu 9:30 pm-1:30 pm w/ Gord from Stone Rock Entertainment.

PLAYBACK PUB 594 Hammette Rd. 475-2309 — Thu 9 pm hosted by Crime.

RAMADA SOUTH 5359 Calgary Trail — Thu 8 pm Colin & Ed Music Trivia, Sun 8 pm — Midweek w/ Colin & Ed, Almost Famous.

RATT University Campus — Tues 9 pm Colin & Ed Music Trivia, Wed 8 pm w/ Colin, Almost Famous.

ROBOSARO'S PUB & KARAOKE CENTRAL 11715-108 Ave. 447-4727 — 7 days a week, 9 pm.

ROBIE'S BAR & GRILL 10478-80 Ave. 439-7211 — Thu Sat, 9 pm-10:30 pm.

ROBIE'S LOUNGE 10604-101 St. 423-3499 — Mon 9 pm. Trivoke Tue Sat, 9 pm Karaoke.

—BY RUBEN BOLLING

SCHOLARS Club 13 11113-87 Ave. — Sun 8 pm

9:30 pm w/ Mr. Entertainment.

SHERLOCK HOLMES Bourbon Street, WEM — Sun 9 pm — 1 am w/ Mr. Entertainment.

SILVER BULLET 420-97 St. 437-6203 — Every Tue, 8 pm.

SMITTY'S NORTHGATE Mall, South side entrance — Sat 9 pm w/ 478-773.

SMITTY'S WESTMOUNT Great Rd. & 111 Ave. Thu 9:30 pm, 1 am.

SPORTSWORLD INLINE & ROLLER SKATING DISCO 13710-104 St. 472-6336 — Tue, Fri & Sat 7-12 pm Sat & Sun 1 pm, 5 pm.

THE DOCKS (condominium Mall) 476 DOCK — Tue 9:30 pm-1:30 am.

THE FRAT 10320-102 Ave. 428-3733 — Every Tue, 9 pm w/ Peter from Mr. Entertainment.

THE NEST NAIT Main Campus — Every Wed, 4:30 pm 8 pm.

THE NEW TAPOUSE 9020 McKinley Ave., St. Albert, 458-0860.

Open by Joy & Mr. Entertainment.

THORSBY HONOR Thorsby, AB — Sat 9:30 pm 1:30 am w/ Sonja/Prosound.

TRANSIT HOTEL 12720 Fort Rd — Thu 11 pm w/ Prosound Productions.

WINSTON'S PUB 9016 132 Ave. 457-4883 —

Wed, Fri & Sat, 9 pm w/ Crystal Wreckers 1013-30 St — Wed 7:30 pm-11:30 pm w/ Sonja/Prosound.

For more information call 1-888-836-7986.

HOPSCOTCH — Sep 14, 7:30 pm Winspear Centre.

A festival of free plays and beers, in support of the Winspear Centre. Tickets and info: 428-1414.

INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY — Sep 7, 11:30-1 pm. City Hall. Hear stories, meet the Alberta Council of the Federation Literacy Award Winner and pick up a free book. Info: 428-7590.

MARKETPLACE AT CALLINGWOOD — Sundays 10 am-3 pm and Wednesdays 12-5 pm. Corner of 17th St. & 69 Ave. Over 100 vendors offering the finest fresh foods, jewelry, and more. Info: callingmarketplace.com.

SCRAPFEST — Sep 6-8, Mayfield Inn and Suites. Over 5000 square feet of shopping, classes and work shops. Tickets can be purchased online at www.scrapfest.ca.

TERRY FOX RUN — Sep 16, 8:30 am. Hawrelak Park. Opening Ceremonies at 10 am. Come out and support the cure for cancer. Info: www.terryfox.org.

WILD BOAR AND BEER BBQ — Sep 16 Alley Kat.

Brewery. All local menu, local beer and local music.

## EXHIBITS

AGNES BUGERA GALLERY 12310 Jasper Ave., 482-2854 — Hours: Tue-Sat 10 am-5 pm Info: www.agnesbugeragallery.com

ALLIED ARTS COUNCIL 455 King St., Spruce Grove 962-0644 — Open art Competition Deadline Sep 19. Info at www.alliedarts.ca.com

ALBERTA CRAFT COUNCIL 1016 106 St. 488-6011 ext 221 — Until Sep 8, Marketplace of Callings. Annual Craft Show, until Oct 6 Making Believe. 100+ artists, 100+ crafters, 100+ entertainers, 100+ food and drink, 100+ fun. Info: 428-27747 or 1-800-277-7474. Info: www.albertacraft.ca.com.

ART BEAT GALLERY 26 St. Anne St., St. Albert, 459-3679 — Hours: Tue, Wed & Fri, 10 am-6 pm Thu, 10 am-8 pm, Sat, 10 am-5 pm Info: www.artbeat.ca.com

ART GALLERY OF ALBERTA Enterprise Square, #100 10230 Jasper Ave. 422-2223 — Sep 8 Free admission, art activities, and educational tours.

Family Day has come early this year as a preview of Quailco Alberta Family Day. Until Sep 9 Living Utopia and Disaster. 2007 Alberta Biennial of Contemporary Art, the AGA, in conjunction with the Walter Phillips Gallery, at the Edmonton Centre presenting a collective show of 22 Alberta artists examining the inevitable opposition of fortune and despair, and utopia built on disasters. Info: www.ingallery.ca.com

ART MODE GALLERY 12220 Jasper Ave. — Open Tue, Sun. Info: www.artmode.com

ARTS HAB STUDIO GALLERY 3rd fl., 1021-106 St. 439-8552 — Every Thu, 5 pm-8 pm. Info: www.arts-hab.com

BEARCLAW GALLERY 10403 24 St. 482-1204 —

Info: www.bearclaw.com

BRINSFORD ZIOLA KENNEDY ARCHITECTURE 10434-122 St. 488-9700 — Until Sep 7

Photographs by Mark Morris. Hours: Mon-Fri 8 am-5 pm.

CAJUN JEWELRY 1017 106 St. Jasper Ave., 421-3427 — Until Sep 5 Summer Parade

Agathe St-Pierre, Emma Coyer, Jody Swanson, Marie-France Leroyer and Val Solash. Sep 7-19 Tangent Stephan Fouquet, Louise Rose, Annette

Ward, and Jennifer K. Klassen. Info: 428-7590.

CLAYBIRD STUDIO 1017 106 St. Jasper Ave., 421-3427 — Until Sep 5 Summer Parade

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COOL STONE STUDIO 1017 106 St. Jasper Ave., 421-3427 — Until Sep 5 Summer Parade

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Ayra, Elm Konvalov and Louise Madeline Cormier

**RED GALLERY** 9121-82 Ave. — View the web site at [www.redgallery.ca](http://www.redgallery.ca). Hours: Mon. - Fri. 11 am - 5 pm; Sat by appointment, 439-8210.

**COLLECTIVE CONTEMPORARY ART** 6507-112 Ave., 491-0002 — Info: [www.collective.ca](http://www.collective.ca)

**CONCORDIA LIBRARY GALLERY** 7128 100th Street, 479-9338 — Until Sep 7 Black and white photographs of Alberto by Leon Strembicky. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am - 5 pm.

**Douglas Udeh GALLERY** 10322-124 St., 488-4445 — Hours: Tues-Fri, 9:30 am - 5:30 pm. Info: [douglasudehgallery.com](http://douglasudehgallery.com)

**ELECTRUM DESIGN STUDIO** 12419 87th St., 488-4022 — Collection 2007 features new works by artists in a variety of medium. Gold & silver jewelry and ornaments by Wayne MacKenzie, Jane Stein, Meghan Wagstaff, John Blair & Jackie Anderson; paintings by Sophie Padhyula-Shaw, Jeff Collins, wood-work by John Morel, Henry Schlesser, George Heagle, glasswork by Robert Held, Jeff Hartmann, Todd Sofronich, ceramics by Katrina Chaytor, Christian Benzen Keffel, washroom grille by Terry O'Connor; photography by Lon Ann Muenzer. Info: [www.waynemackenzie.com](http://www.waynemackenzie.com)

**EXTENSION CENTRE GALLERY** 2nd Fl., U of A Extension Centre, 8303-112 St. — Until Sep 4 Traditional and Transposition. Hours: Mon-Fri, 8 am - 4 pm. Info: [www.extension.ualberta.ca](http://www.extension.ualberta.ca)

**FAB GALLERY** 1-1 Fine Arts Building, U of A Campus — Until Sep 22 (dis)appearance by Manila Nivatnirata MFA Printmaking. New work by Osamu Matsuda, guest-in-residence in printmaking. Hours: Tues - Fri, 10 am - 5 pm; Sat, 2 - 5 pm.

**FRINGE GALLERY** 10516 Whyte Ave., 432-0240

**FRONT GALLERY** 1231 Jasper Ave., 488-2952

**GALLERY AT MULNER** Stanley A. Milner Library, Churchill Square —

**HARCOURT HOUSE GALLERY** 3rd floor, 10215-112 St., 426-4180 — Aug 31-Sep 29 The Offering sculptures by Adrián Cooke and Temporary Geography by Shannon Collins. Info: [www.harcourt.ca](http://www.harcourt.ca)

**JEFF ALLEN GALLERY** Strathcona Seniors Centre, 10183 University Ave., 433-5807 — Sep 4-21 Instructors Showtime! A unique exhibit featuring the artistic talents of the instructors.

**JOHNSON GALLERY** 7711-85 St. — Edmonton Oil Painters, artists working in-studio. Info: [www.johngallery.ca](http://www.johngallery.ca)

**KOHON STUDIOS** #143, 10309-107 St., 428-6230

**LANDO GALLERY** 1113-105 Ave., 999-1161 — Hours: Mon - Fri, 10 am - 5:30 pm; Sat, 10 am - 4:30 pm. Sun by appointment. Visit [www.lando-gallery.com](http://www.lando-gallery.com) for info.

**LATITUDE 53** 10248 106 St., 423-5252 — Gallery hours: Tues-Fri 10 am-6 pm; Sat 12-5 pm. Info: [www.latitude53.ca](http://www.latitude53.ca)

**LOFT GALLERY** 550 Brookdale Blvd. (Rd. Barn), Strathcona — 467-4481 — Hours: Sat 10 am - 4 pm (except holiday weekends), Thu 5 pm - 9 pm. Info: [www.loft.ca](http://www.loft.ca)

**MANDOLIN BOOKS & COFFEE CO.** 6419-112 Ave., 479-4050 — **MCMULLEN GALLERY** 8440-112 St., 407-7152 — Until Oct 14, All Day Everyday new works gathered around the theme on the familiar and everyday. Curated by Rose Bouffier. Hours: Mon-Fri, 10 am - 8 pm; Sat & Sun, 1 - 8 pm. Admission Free

**MARSHAL ART CENTER FOR THE ARTS GALLERY** 5411-51 St., Story Plan 963-2777 — Hours daily 10 am-4 pm

**MUSEE HERITAGE MUSEUM** 5 St. Anne St., St. Albert, 459-1528 — Hours: Mon - Sat, 10 am - 5 pm; & Sun, 1 - 5 pm. Admission: Suggested donation of \$10.

**MUTTART CONSERVATORY** 9826 96A St. — Until Oct 4, A collection of student art work, ages 4 to 14.

**NIINA HAGERTY CENTER** 9704-111 Ave., 476-7611 — Hours: Studio open Mon - Fri, 10 am - 2 pm. Gallery open Mon, Wed & Fri 9:30 am - 2:30 pm. Tues & Thu 9:30 am - 4 pm & 6 pm - 8 pm. Info: [www.niinahagertyart.ca](http://www.niinahagertyart.ca)

**ORTONA ARMOURY** 77# 97 97 St., 9772-102 St. — Hours Sat & Sun, 12-4 pm

**OUT OF THE FIRE STUDIO** 12214 Jasper Ave., 378-0240 — Works by Fraser McGurk, Alexander Glacier, original oils by Richard Dixon, sculpture by Lizzan's Fondi, Romanian and Persian hand-painted glass, and steampunk pallentines.

**PETER ROBERTSON GALLERY** 10183 112 St. — Until Sep 4 A Hope in Hell Neo-pop paintings by Steven Corbo. Sep 4-20 ECAS 15th Annual Exhibition featuring various artists. Hours: Tues-Sat 10 am - 5:30 pm.

**PICTURE THIS** 959 Ordze Rd., Sherwood Park — Until Sep 11, Soapstone sculptures by Vance Theoret, encapsulated watercolours by Thomas Love, acrylic paintings by Yuan Cheng Bi, landscapes by Peter Jacobs, seascapes by Maxwell Ninecreek, acrylic painting by Karen Burnett, small wildlife water colours by Wes and Rachelle Siegent. Hours: 9 am-5:30 pm daily. Info: 467-3038 or [picturethis.ca](http://www.picturethis.ca)

**PORTAL GALLERY** 9414-91 St., 702-7522 — Until Sep 11, An exhibition of new works by Vivian Bennett. Hours: Tues-Fri 2-8pm, Sat 12-7pm.

**PROFILES PUBLIC ART GALLERY** 1191 59th St., St. Albert, 460-4310 — Until Sep 1, Roots, Shami Chaha, Brinda Kim Christiansen and Erin Schwab reconnected with nature through installations, drawings, paintings and sculptures.

**PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF ALBERTA** 8555 100th St., 427-1750 — Until Sep 1 Immortal Nature's

Ageless Harmony: The Botanical Lantern Slides of William Copeland McCalla. Hours: Tues - Sat 9 am - 4:30 pm; Wed 9 am - 9 pm. Info: [www.iprc.gov.ca/cpr](http://www.iprc.gov.ca/cpr)

**ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM** 12845-102 Ave., 453-9100 — Until Sep 3 Golden Rowell: A retrospective featuring works from the world-renowned adventure photographer; Coal and Collected: Unseen artifacts from collected archives; Small Wonder: The Minuscule Magnified; Stones From the Southeast Collection: A 150 Year Journey. First Nations and Metis artifacts collected by James Carnegie, the ninth Earl of Southesk. Info: [www.royalbcmuseum.ca](http://www.royalbcmuseum.ca)

**SCOTT GALLERY** 10411 78th St., 488-3619 — Until Sep 4, Group show featuring new work by Phillips Anderson, David Mitchell, Tom Wilcock, and Jacqueline Stephen. Hours: Tues - Sat 10 am - 5 pm. Info: [www.scottgallery.com](http://www.scottgallery.com)

**SCULPTURE STUDIO & GALLERY** Sherwood Park, 662-4160 — Figurative and abstract sculpture by Horst D. Info: [www.hans-sculpture.ca](http://www.hans-sculpture.ca)

**SEIFRIDGE POTTERY STUDIO** 9844-88 Ave., 439-9294 — Info: [www.seifridgepottery.ca](http://www.seifridgepottery.ca)

**SNAP GALLERY** Society of Northern Alberta Print Artists, 10309-97 St., 423-1492 — Tues - Sat 10 am - 5 pm. Info: [www.snapartists.com](http://www.snapartists.com)

**SPECTRUM ART GALLERY** 9418-91 St. — Featuring 30 Western Canadian artists. Hours: Tues - Sat, 11 am - 9 pm.

**STEPPS** Glendale, 12411 Story Plan Road — Until Sep 30 Big Purple cows by Chris Riley.

**STRATHCONA COUNTY MUSEUM & ARCHIVES** 913 Ash St., Sherwood Park, 476-0189 — July-Sep Sports from the Past, collections of sports equipment, photographs, and memorabilia from the early 1900s to late 1980s. Regular hours: Mon-Fri 10 am - 4 pm. Info: [www.strathconamuseum.com](http://www.strathconamuseum.com)

**STUDIO GALLERY** 1117 10th St., St. Albert, 460-5993 — Until Sep 1 The World Around Me, George Kubo. Hours: Tues - Fri, 10 am - 5 pm; Sat, 10 am - 4 pm.

**TELUS WORLD OF SCIENCE** (AKA Edmonton's Space & Science Centre) 11211-142 St., 451-3344 — Until Sep 3 Lost Worlds: From Dinosaurs to Ancient Civilizations. Permanent Exhibits: The Body Fantastic, Mystery Avenue, The Green's House, Space Place, Discoveryland & DinoDen in the Explorer Galleria, Suncore Science Stage, Science Demos - Cryogenics, Electricity, What Puts the Fizz in Soda Pops. Info: 451-3344.

**TU GALLERY** 10718-124 St., 452-9662 — Info: [www.tugallery.ca](http://www.tugallery.ca)

**UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA South Rutherford Library** — Until Sep 15 Chasing Form: Cesar Alvarez, outdoor exhibition.

**URBAN ROOTS** 10418-82 Ave. — Until Sep 17 Warren Wenzel's first solo exhibit. Info: 438-7978.

**VAAA GALLERY Visual Arts Alberta Association**, 3rd Fl., 10215-112 St., 421-1731 — Until Sep 29 Wild Fibres: An Untamed Exhibit. A collection of items created from natural and recycled fibres. Hours: Mon-Fri 10-4pm, Sat 12-4pm.

**WORKS GALLERY** #200, 10225-100 Ave., 426-2122 — Info: [www.worksgallery.ca](http://www.worksgallery.ca)

**WYNDHAM GALLERIES & STUDIO** 10300-100 Ave., 493-0388 — Avangard Mexican jewelry & artwork by Canadian and Mexican artists and artisans. Hours: Tues & Wed, 10 am - 6 pm; Thu & Fri, 10 am - 8 pm; Sat, 10 am - 8 pm; Sun & Mon, 9 am - 5 pm.

**ZOCALO** 10826-95 St., 428-0754 — A gallery of courtyard surprises. Features a diverse selection of international crafts, artwork, and tropical flowers. Hours: Mon-Wed & Fri 10-6 pm, Thu 10-9 pm, Sat 9-5 pm, Sun 12-5 pm.

**YAAVA GALLERY Visual Arts Alberta Association**, 3rd Fl., 10215-112 St., 421-1731 — Until Sep 29 Wild Fibres: An Untamed Exhibit. A collection of items created from natural and recycled fibres. Hours: Mon-Fri 10-4pm, Sat 12-4pm.

**IMAGES ALBERTA CAMERA CLUB** — 2nd & 4th Thu of the month, 8 pm. Allendale School 6415 - 106 St. Informative, entertaining presentations, speakers, workshops, outings, monthly and year end competitions. Photographic enthusiasts of all levels welcome. For further info see [www.imagesab.ca](http://www.imagesab.ca) or call Shirley 469-9776.

**JUBILEE TOASTMASTERS CLUB** — Every Tues, 7 pm. ABC Country Restaurant, 12707-140 Ave. Gain confidence & how you communicate skills one-on-one or with groups. Info: [www.jubileemt.ca](http://www.jubileemt.ca)

**NOTICINE ANONYMOUS** — Every Wed, 7 pm, at Ebenezer United Church, 163 St. & 106 Ave, call Ghysen at 443-3020; or Every Sun, 7:30 pm, at Gethsemane Church, 109 St. & 106 Ave, call Ryno at 990-8917 or Jo at 479-5969.

**NORWOOD TOASTMASTERS CLUB** — Every Thu, 11:50-12:50 St. — Every Thu, 8-10 pm. Improve public speaking & communication skills. Info: 424-2707 or [www.norwoodtoastmasters.org](http://www.norwoodtoastmasters.org).

**PURRS TOASTMASTERS CLUB** — Every Wed, 7 pm. Best Western - Cedar Park Inn, Calgary Trail & 51 Ave. Become more confident speaking to groups & individuals through our proven program. Info: [www.purrs.org](http://www.purrs.org)

**SCREENWRITER'S CIRCLE** Ortona Armoury, 9722-102 St., 429-1671 — Every second Tue, 7 pm. Call 429-1671 or visit FAVA.co.

**CITY OF EDMONTON ARCHIVES** 10440-108 Ave., 496-8710 — More than 50,000 catalogued photographs and slides from the 1800s to the present. Two display galleries. Free admission. Hours: Weekdays, 6:30 am - 4:30 pm.

**JOHN WALTER MUSEUM** 10661-91 Ave., 496-8787 — Admission is free, donations gladly accepted. Info: [www.edmonton.ca/johnwalter](http://www.edmonton.ca/johnwalter)

**LOYAL EDMONTON REGIMENT MILITARY MUSEUM** 118, Prince of Wales Armouries Heritage Centre, 10440-108 Ave. — Current exhibition: The Battle of Ortona Dec 1943. Displaying artifacts, photographs, documents, and texts on one of Canada's most important battles of World War II. Hours: Weekdays, 10 am - 4 pm.

**MUSEUM HERITAGE MUSEUM** 5 St. Anne St., 92, Albert, 459-1528 — Hours: Mon - Sat, 10 am - 5 pm; & Sun, 1 - 5 pm. Admission: Suggested donation of \$2. Info: [www.museumheritage.ca](http://www.museumheritage.ca)

**ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM** 12845-102 Ave., 453-9100 — Permanent Exhibitions: Wild Alberta explores Alberta's natural habitat. The Suncore Gallery of Aboriginal Culture traces the extraordinary history of Alberta's Aboriginal peoples from

the end of the Ice Age to the present day. The Natural History Gallery explores some of the extraordinary changes the Alberta region has experienced, and how these changes were written in the rocks. Info: 459-9100. Hours: Mon - Sun, 9 am - 5 pm. Ticket prices & Info: [www.royalbcmuseum.ca](http://www.royalbcmuseum.ca)

**TELEPHONE MUSEUM** Prince of Wales Armouries Heritage Centre, 10440-108 Ave., 453-1010 — Hours: Tues - Fri, 10 am - 3 pm. Admission by donation.

## MEETINGS

**ACDA** — 12 step support program for adult children of alcoholics and dysfunctional families. Meets every Mon, including holidays, 7:30 pm. Burn Braeside Presbyterian Church, 67 Bernard Dr., St. Albert, corner of Bishop St. & Sir Winston Churchill Ave. Little north entrance.

**ADHD SUPPORT** Glenrose Hospital, 10200-111 Ave., Norwegian College, 10215-18 St. — Every Wed, 7 pm. Improve your public speaking skills. Info: Roger, 454-3720.

**WEST END TOASTMASTERS CLUB** — COMMUNICATION & LEADERSHIP — Jasper Place Library, 9010-156 St. — Every Tues, 6:45 - 9 pm.

Communication involves listening skills, giving appropriate feedback and public speaking. Join the friendly environment of personal progress and mutual support during two-hour weekly meetings. Info: 495-5424

**UPWARD BOUND TOASTMASTERS** Rim 601, Norwegian College, 10215-18 St. — Every Wed, 7 pm. Improve your public speaking skills. Info: Roger, 454-3720.

**WEST END TOASTMASTERS CLUB** — COMMUNICATION & LEADERSHIP — Jasper Place Library, 9010-156 St. — Every Tues, 6:45 - 9 pm.

Communication involves listening skills, giving appropriate feedback and public speaking. Join the friendly environment of personal progress and mutual support during two-hour weekly meetings. Info: 495-5424

**ALBERTA ENTREPRENEURS ASSOCIATION** The Faculty Club, 11435 59th St. — Every Tues, 5:30 pm - 9 pm. Pre-register at [www.aaa.ca](http://www.aaa.ca).

**ALLIED ARTS COUNCIL** Spruce Grove Art Gallery — General meetings First Wed, 7:30 pm. Info: [www.aaic.ca](http://www.aaic.ca) or call 962-0664.

**BUSINESS & BEYOND TOASTMASTERS** Club U of A, Bus 89 — Every Mon, 6:30 pm. Practice and enhance your communication, leadership & public speaking. Info: 492-0710 or [www.bbta.ca](http://www.bbta.ca)

**CHANTICLEER TOASTMASTERS** — Every Thurs 7:30 am, Kingsway Room, Millard Health Centre, 131 Airport Rd. Feed confident speaking and build leadership skills. No meetings July-Aug. Info: Robin Ingram, 498-4608 or 474-1138.

**EDMONTON FRENCH MEETUP** — Informal conversation group, all levels of French speakers welcome. Info: [french meetup.com](http://french meetup.com)/236 or 945-5220.

**EDMONTON NATURE CLUB** — Monthly meetings at Royal Alberta Museum, 12845-102 Ave. Info: [www.royalbcmuseum.ca](http://www.royalbcmuseum.ca)

**EDMONTON FORUM TOASTMASTERS** —

Meets Tues (last few weekends), 12 noon at the Royal Glenora Club, River Valley Rd. Try us out - delicious buffet lunch, supportive and fun-filled environment, learning communication and leadership skills. Info: Don Robson 463-0565 or [drzotter@shaw.ca](mailto:drzotter@shaw.ca)

**HIP MAMAS MEETUP** — A group of young mothers and their babies meet several times a week for activities and attend events together. Free to join, plenty of friends to make. Info: [hipmamas.meetup.com/151](http://hipmamas.meetup.com/151)

**ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB** The Room, 10345-104 St. — Second Thu of each month, 8 pm. Cross dressers, transsexuals, friends & supporters meet.

Meets Mon (last few weekends), 12 noon at the Royal Glenora Club, River Valley Rd. Try us out - delicious buffet lunch, supportive and fun-filled environment, learning communication and leadership skills. Info: 387-3343 or go to [www.illusionssocialclub.com](http://www.illusionssocialclub.com)

**IMAGES ALBERTA CAMERA CLUB** — 2nd & 4th Thu of the month, 8 pm. Allendale School 6415 - 106 St. of the month, 8 pm. Informative, entertaining presentations, speakers, workshops, outings, monthly and year end competitions. Photographic enthusiasts of all levels welcome. For further info see [www.imagesab.ca](http://www.imagesab.ca) or call Shirley 469-9776.

**PEACE AMBASSADORS INITIATIVE** — Every Mon, 5 pm - 7 pm. Education North 4-104, U of A Campus. A youth group that promotes anti-racism & diversity workshops. Info: 425-4644 or [www.noarr.org](http://www.noarr.org)

**SIERRA CLUB OF CANADA** — Prairie Chapter works with, and is always seeking, ecologically and socially conscious individuals to build a strong grassroots movement in the Prairies. Info: [www.sierraclub.ca/prairie](http://www.sierraclub.ca/prairie)

**TOOLS FOR CHANGE** — Bi-weekly series of workshops to show you tools to stop one of the most environmentally devastating projects, the Alberta Tar Sands. Info: 423-9202.

**UNESCO COALITION FOR PEACE** — Meets on the last Fri of every month, 3 pm. Boyle McCauley Health Centre, 2nd Fl. Boardroom, 1028-98 St. Info: [www.queenspe.ca](http://www.queenspe.ca)

**VEGETARIANS OF ALBERTA** — Monthly events, potluck dinners, and newsletter. Info: [events.volca.ca](http://events.volca.ca) or go to [www.volca.ca](http://www.volca.ca)

**SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN'S ISSUES** — Weekly drop in meetings; providing resources and information on self-esteem, mental health, employment, etc. Men are welcome to attend. Info: 496-5930.

**THE OUTSIDERS SUPPORT GROUP** — Every Wed, 7-8:30 pm. A support group for families and friends of loved ones who are incarcerated or on parole. Providing emotional support, info and a place to share info. Info: 471-1122.

**THEMATIC SUPPORTIVE SUPPORT** — 1st Wed every month (Oct-June), 7 pm. meeting for TS adults and parents of TS kids. Academy of King Edward, 8525 - 101 St., North door. Info: 1-866-824-9764.

**UPWARD BOUND TOASTMASTERS** Rim 601, Norwegian College, 10215-18 St. — Every Wed, 7 pm. Improve your public speaking skills. Info: Roger, 454-3720.

**WEST END TOASTMASTERS CLUB** — COMMUNICATION & LEADERSHIP — Jasper Place Library, 9010-156 St. — Every Tues, 6:45 - 9 pm.

Communication involves listening skills, giving appropriate feedback and public speaking. Join the friendly environment of personal progress and mutual support during two-hour weekly meetings. Info: 495-5424

**WOW IN THE WOODS** — We all have something to say, amateurs and professionals alike. Let this creative writing process guide you into self-discovery. Meetings bi-monthly, Sun 4-6 pm. Three Bananas Cafe, Churchill Square. First visit free. Info: [feelgood-edmonton2007@gmail.com](http://feelgood-edmonton2007@gmail.com)

**YOGA** Rodha Yoga 9946-82 Ave. — Weekly classes in small group settings and Sunday Sat-Sun (by donation). Enquire about schedule and fees. Info: 432-3363 or [www.rodhalyoga.org](http://www.rodhalyoga.org)

**THE NETWORK OF EDMONTON SOCIETY** 10145 Jasper Ave., 488-5742 — Hours: Mon, Wed, 7 pm. Info: 488-3742 or [www.tnes.ca](http://www.tnes.ca)

**KARATE IT'S A KICK** — Classes for kids over 10, teens, and adults. Info: [www.motawin.com](http://www.motawin.com) or call 957-9910.

**LIVING POSITIVE** Suite 50, 9912-106 St. — Every Tues 7 pm - 9 pm. A confidential space where POZ people can discuss & share common issues of concern. A peer-driven, AIDS service organization, providing direct support to people living w/ HIV in Alberta. Info: 488-5748 or [edmvivingpositive.ca](http://edmvivingpositive.ca)

**LOTUS SOUL GYM YOGA STUDIO** 1057 82 Ave. — Multidisciplinary yoga studio offering drop-in & registered classes in hatha, vinyasa flow, pilates, yoga for runners, pre-natal, post-natal, mommy & me, and partner workshops. All levels welcome. Info: For schedules and pricing, visit [www.lotussoulgym.com](http://www.lotussoulgym.com)

**MADELEINE SANAM FOUNDATION** Faculté Saint-Jean, 8406-91 St., Room 3-18. — Every third & fourth Sat, 9 am - 5 pm. An organization for the emancipation and autonomy of African women through programs in economy, community radio and community health. Offers training on HIV-AIDS prevention, treatment and harm reduction in French, English and African languages. Admission free for members; membership: \$10. Call 490-7332 to register.

**MS ACTIVE NOW** #130, 9405-50 St. — Recreation and Physical Wellness programs. Info: 471-3034.

**OPEN YOUR MIND** 1403-101 St. — Geden

Samson Ling Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Society. Meditation and Buddhist teachings by our resident teacher, Tibetan Buddhist teacher, Kushok Lobzang Dharmachakra. Tues, 7pm. Intermediate

Wed, 7pm. Advanced practices Sun, 11-1 pm. Info: 470-0014 or [www.gedenmeditation.org](http://www.gedenmeditation.org)

**RAJA YOGA MEDITATION** #208, 10132-105 St. —

In association with the Brahma Kumaris' World Spiritual Organization. For info on introductory classes or events go to [www.blwsu.org](http://www.blwsu.org) or call 425-1050.

**SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY** Strathcona Place Seniors Centre, 1031 University Ave. — 2nd & 4th

of every month, Dr. Joyce Krosnowski offers personal counselling, call 433-5807 to arrange consultations or appointments. Every 2nd Wed Dr. Krosnowski facilitates an Organization for Caregivers Support Group. 10 am-11:30 am.

**STRESS/TENSION MEDITATION COURSE** 12520 135 Ave. — Free course suitable for novices and experienced meditators and anyone interested in personal development. Presented by Willpower Institute. Sep 7, 7 pm. Orientation. Sep 10 Course starts.

**TAI CHI** 10145 Jasper Ave., 488-5742 —

Hours: Daily 10 am - 2 pm. Demonstrations of Tai Chi, information and a free introductory class.

Open house of 1-300.

**TRANQUILITY MEDITATION** 10502-70 Ave. — Every Wed, 7 pm. Tibetan tradition. Every 7 pm, 1 pm, free course suitable for novices and experienced meditators and anyone interested in personal development. Presented by Willpower Institute. Sep 7, 7 pm. Orientation. Sep 10 Course starts.

**WELLNESS** 10502-70 Ave. — Every Wed, 7 pm. Tibetan tradition. Every 7 pm, 1 pm, free course suitable for novices and experienced meditators and anyone interested in personal development. Presented by Willpower Institute. Sep 7, 7 pm. Orientation. Sep 10 Course starts.

**CANADIAN NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE** — 11205-101 St., 479-1999 Offers a range of services for members of the Native community, including a free food community lunch every Friday at noon, employment & Public Health information, counseling referrals & one-on-one support, ADAC & Legal Aid referrals, and low cost or free beds, housing & clothing referrals. Info: 479-1999.

**from the secret files of MAX CANNON**

Uh, that is... if you consider a viscous, sour pork flavored, gravy-like fluid "drinkable".

**RED MEAT**

plaque encrusted humor valve

I know this might be a silly question, Dear... but why have you been standing out in the hot sun wearing that scuba diving outfit?

**RED MEAT**

This is an experimental body fluid harvesting suit. This little get-up collects and recycles all of my bodily secretions.

**RED MEAT**

Exactly. It then percolates back out this mouth tube tube in a drinkable liquid form.

**RED MEAT**

# READINGS & LECTURES

**ART & POETRY NIGHT** — 3rd Sat every month. *Corona* Coffee Station Jasper Ave. & 108 St. A night of music, visual arts, spoken word, poetry and more. Submissions welcome. Info: 448-1051 or [eshow@biphotomail.com](mailto:eshow@biphotomail.com)

**BOOKTELEVISION 3-D NOVEL CONTEST** — Sep 1-3. Chapters South Point, 3227 Calgary Trail. BookTV drops 12 writers in Edmonton's largest bookstore for a unique reading show, where the writers will live, eat, and sleep while trying to write a novel in just three days. Enter contests in-store. Info: [booktelevision.com](http://booktelevision.com)

**EDMONTON POETRY FESTIVAL** — Sep 17-23, The 2nd annual Edmonton Poetry Festival is branching out. Seven days of words, voices, wit and energy. Happenings from hip-hop to haiku, in various locations downtown. Info at TIX on the Square, 420-1757.

**NAKED CYBER CAFE & ESPRESSO BAR** — 10354 Jasper Ave., 425-9730 — Every Thu open stage poetry readings.

**POETS INK** — Weekly writing evenings on hiatus until September. For info on the 07/08 season visit [www.poetsink.com](http://www.poetsink.com)

**ROBERT LEMAY ART TALK** — Sep 13, 7 pm. Stanley A. Milner Theatre. Free public lecture by Robert Lemay.

**ROAR** — Sep 21, 7, 8, 9 and 10 pm. Various locations downtown. The Edmonton spoken word festival that kicks poetic butt. One glorious night festival in various bars, lounges, cafes and book stores.

**STORY CAFE** — Aug 30, 7 pm. *Rose's Bar and Grill*, 10475 80th Ave. The first event of a new season of Story Cafes, with a "Festive Fling" theme. Presented by T.A.L.E.S. Info: 932-4409.

**WORDI SYMPOSIUM** — Sep 21-22, 10 am. Muttart Hall, MacPherson, 10260 MacDonald Drive. Talk, poetry and performance, exploring the many connections between everyday life, poetry and art forms. Tickets at TIX on the Square, 420-1757.

# LEARNING

**AFRICAN DANCE CLASSES** — Movement. The Afro-Caribbean Dance Ensemble holds classes conveniently located on Jasper Ave. Info: 415-5211 or [www.africandance.ca](http://www.africandance.ca)

**CHESS LEARNING AND PLAYING OPPORTUNITIES** — For students and families of Edmonton Chess Club and other locations in the city. Info: 474-2318 or [email@chess.ca](mailto:email@chess.ca)

**DEVONIAN BOTANIC GARDEN CLASSES** — Runs a variety of crafting and gardening courses For info on courses, fees, and to register call 987-2064 Hwy 60, 20 min South via Anthony Henday Freeway.

**DROP-IN ART FOR THE ARTIST AT HEART** — Profiles Public Art Gallery, 19 Peter St., St. Albert. Info on upcoming classes, call 460-4310 or [email@cgfns.ca](mailto:email@cgfns.ca)

**EDMONTON WEAVERS GUILD** — Offering classes on weaving and spinning. Info: 594-1152 or [email@weavers.ca](mailto:email@weavers.ca)

**EDMONTON WRITERS CENTRE** — Offers a creative space for writers of all genres and levels at the Stanley A. Milner Library. Hours: Mon-Fri, 9 am - 9 pm. Sat, 9 am - 6 pm. Sun, 1 pm - 5 pm. Info: 466-7070.

**FAVA WORKSHOPS** — The Film and Video Arts Society offers one-night workshops twice a month in a variety of media activities. Details at [www.fava.ca](http://www.fava.ca)

**FLAMENCO LESSONS** — Judith and Oscar Jose Garcia teach both Flamenco dance & guitar. Flamenco every Fri, 7 pm - 10 pm. *El Toro Restaurant*, 10425-100 Ave. Info: 780-349-4843

**HARCOURT HOUSE ART CLASSES** — A variety of low-cost classes specializing in drawing, pastels, painting & other mediums, taught by professional artists & educators. Schedules and info at [www.harcourtshouse.ca](http://www.harcourtshouse.ca) or call 426-4180.

Call our hotline, 430-9043, between 11 am and 11:15 am on Friday, indicate which prize you'll be vying for, and give the FREE STUFF operator the correct answer. If you reach the answering machine, hang up and try again. You may not win FREE STUFF by leaving messages on the voice-mail, sending faxes to the SEE office, or if you have won in the last 30 days. SEE reserves the right to restrict prizes. Prizes must be claimed in person by the contest entrant before the following Thursday.

**Prize:** A double-guest pass to see *The 11th Hour* at the Garneau Theatre.

**Skill-testing question:** What well-known Canadian environmentalist is interviewed in *The 11th Hour*?

**Prize:** A double-guest pass to see *2 Days in Paris*, *Becoming Jane* or *Close to Home* at the Princess Theatre.

**Skill-testing question:** What is the original Hebrew title of *Close to Home*?

Call our hotline, 430-9043, between 11 am and 11:15 am on Friday, indicate which prize you'll be vying for, and give the FREE STUFF operator the correct answer. If you reach the answering machine, hang up and try again. You may not win FREE STUFF by leaving messages on the voice-mail, sending faxes to the SEE office, or if you have won in the last 30 days. SEE reserves the right to restrict prizes. Prizes must be claimed in person by the contest entrant before the following Thursday.

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**INNOVATIONS MUSIC PIANO WORKSHOPS** — A range of summer workshops for piano students and teachers. Info: 465-4430

**LEARNING CENTRE LITERACY ASSOCIATION** — #200, 10116-105 Ave. The Learning Centre is looking for people to help adults develop their literacy and math skills. Volunteer and help others make positive changes for themselves and their communities. Info: 947-0475

**MARS HILL CENTRE** — 88318 104 St. 435-0202 Offers classes and workshops on the recovery process, incorporating emotional, relational and spiritual dynamics. Registration is on a sliding scale based on participant's income. Full details at [www.marshillcentre.com](http://www.marshillcentre.com)

**MOMMY & ME BELLY DANCING CLASSES** — Belly dancing classes and parties for adults and children. For more information call 428-5571, or email [belkadan@telus.net](mailto:belkadan@telus.net)

**MOSAICS ART CLASSES** — Minores Mosaics offers a range of mosaic art classes for beginners and intermediates, taught at the City Arts Centre, 10943 84 Ave. Info: [www.minoresmosaics.com](http://www.minoresmosaics.com), or call 439-1957

**MIRIA LUNCH & LEARN SEMINARS** — The Marketing Research and Intelligence Association of Alberta holds workshops at the U of A. Free Info [info@theqinstitute.com](http://info@theqinstitute.com)

# QUEER

**AGAPE** Education faculty, U of A Campus — Focus on sex and gender differences in education & culture. Pre-service & practicing teachers, community members welcome. Email: [andre.groves@ualberta.ca](mailto:andre.groves@ualberta.ca) for Agape events schedule. Info: 492-0772

**EPS/LGBTQ LIAISON COMMITTEE** — The EPS/LGBTQ Liaison Committee is composed of a wide variety of concerned lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-identified, two-spirited, queer, allied community members and police officers. Please email us with any questions or concerns at [epslgbtq@yahoo.ca](mailto:epslgbtq@yahoo.ca). All inquiries will be handled with confidentiality. To report a hate or bias motivated crime, please contact the EPS Hate & Bias Crime Unit (780) 421-3489.

**INSIDE/OUT U of A Campus** — A campus-based organization for LGBTQ faculty, graduates, academic & staff. Straight allies are also welcome. Monthly meetings. Contact [kwell@ualberta.ca](mailto:kwell@ualberta.ca) or [mronham@ualberta.ca](mailto:mronham@ualberta.ca)

**PRIDE CENTRE** 9540-111 Ave., 488-3234 — GLBT & Supporters Community & Resource Centre. Join a group or take part in special programming. Hours: Mon-Sun, 10 pm - 10 pm. Info: [www.pridecentredmonton.org](http://www.pridecentredmonton.org)

**TEAM EDMONTON** — A volunteer operated, not-for-profit society for members and friends of the GLBT community, offering well organized and fun sporting events and other recreational activities within a positive social framework. Info: [www.teamdmonton.ca](http://www.teamdmonton.ca)

**WOMONSPACE** — Non-profit lesbian organization for Edmonton and surrounding areas. Organized monthly activities include licensed non-smoking dances, coffee houses, family events, games nights, golf tournaments, and more. Memberships available, including monthly newsletter. Confidentiality assured. Info: [www.gaycanada.com/womon-space](http://www.gaycanada.com/womon-space), email [womon-space@gmail.com](mailto:womon-space@gmail.com), or phone (780) 482-1794.

**YOUTH THEATRE PROJECT** — 9540-111 Ave. The Pride Centre of Edmonton is proud to announce the beginning of a Youth Theatre Project aimed at using theatre to educate about and reduce homophobia/bullying. Meetings are every Wed at 7 pm. No theatre experience required. Please contact Emily at 488-3234 for info.

# THURSDAY

**BI-Sexual Women's Coffee Group** — Second Thu each month 7:30 pm. A social group for bi-curious and bi-sexual women. More info: [groups.yahoo.com/group/biwmonton](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/biwmonton)

**COCAINE ANONYMOUS MEETING** — Every Thu, 7

pm. Pride Centre (9540-111 Ave.) CA Hoffman 425-2715

**GAYWIRE CSG 88.5** — 6 pm. Edmonton's only radio show about gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered lives. Featuring local, national and international lectures and community events.

**HIV POSITIVE GUIT SUPPORT GROUP** — Every sec and Thu, 7 pm. Pride Centre (9540-111 Ave.) Drop in support group facilitated by Mark from HIV Edmonton.

**GBTG SENIORS DROP IN** — Every Thu, 2 pm - 4 pm, Pride Centre (9540-111 Ave.) Info: 468-1948

**ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB** *The Roast*, 10345 104 St. — Second Thu of each month, 8 pm. Cross dressers, transsexuals, friends & supporters meet. Info: 387-3343 or go to [groups.yahoo.com/group/edmonton\\_illusions/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/edmonton_illusions/)

**TEAM EDMONTON SOCCER** — South field of Oliver School, 10227-118 St. Every Thursday, 7-9 pm (weather permitting). Info: [email.soccer@teamdmonton.ca](mailto:email.soccer@teamdmonton.ca)

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friends of Grant MacEwan College.

**TEAM EDMONTON CYCLING** — 6:30 pm. Info: cycling@teamedmonton.ca.

**TEAM EDMONTON SLO-PITCH** — 7-9 pm, Parkdale Field, 118 St. & 68 Ave. Info: slo-pitch@teamedmonton.ca

**YOURS, MINE, OURS & YOUS (YMOU)** — A support group for LGBT parents, partners and their families. Meets first and third Wed. of the month. Info: 426-6311 or 415-5434.

## BATH HOUSES

**DOWN UNDER** 1222a Jasper Ave., 482-7960. www.govtment.com

**STEAMWORKS** 1745 Jasper Ave., 451-5554 — Open 24/7

## DANCE

**DANCE OF UNIVERSAL PEACE** — 2nd & 4th Thu of each month, 7:30 pm. Rivendale Hall, 9231-100 Ave. Info: Call: 467-1285

**THEATRE**  
2007 LIVE & LET FRINGE HOLDOWERS —



# SHOWTIMES AUG. 31 TO SEPT. 6, 2007

## GARNEAU

617-109 Street • 434-0728

**THE 11TH HOUR**  
Mighty 7:00, Sat Sun & Mon matinee 2:00

**PRINCESS**  
10337-82 Avenue • 433-0728

**2 DAYS IN PARIS**  
Mighty 7:00; Sat Sun & Mon matinee 1:00.

**DETERMINED**  
Mighty 7:00, Sat Sun & Mon matinee 3:00.

**CLOSE TO HOME**  
Mighty 7:00, 9:00; Sat Sun & Mon matinee 2:00

**MAGIC LANTERN CINEMA**  
205 Main Street, Space Grove • 942-7332

**THE MAMMY DIARIES**  
Mighty 7:00, matinee 8:15, 8:20, 9:00.

**RUSH HOUR 3**  
Nightly 9:00. Course language, not recommended for young children.

**METRO CINEMA**  
9828 101A Avenue, ZEPHER HALL, CITADEL THEATRE • 475-212

**CLUB NINETY NINE, SEPTEMBER 1**

**GRANDIN THEATRE**

GRANDIN MALL, 9810 WINSTON CHURCHILL AVE, ST. ALBERT • 458-9722

**THEATRE 99, WINSTON AVENUE**

**THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM**  
Mighty 7:00, 9:00.

**MRI. BEAN'S HOLIDAY**  
Fri-Thurs 7:00, 9:30; Sat Sun 7:30, 9:30.

**HALLOWEEN**  
Fri-Thurs 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:30. No passes.

**BALLS OF FURY**  
Mighty 7:00, 9:30, 11:00, 7:00, 9:30. No passes.

**LEDUC CINEMAS**  
4702 50 St. Leduc • 786-2720

**BALLS OF FURY**  
Mighty 7:05, 7:25, matinee 11:00, 8:15.

Not recommended for young children.

**HALLOWEEN**  
Fri-Thurs 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:30. No passes.

**WAR**  
Mighty 7:00, 9:30, matinee 1:00, 3:30. Brutal violence, gory scenes.

**STAR DUST**  
Mighty 6:15, matinee 6:05, 3:30. Frightening scenes, not recommended for young children.

**WATERWORLD CINEMA & PLAZA**  
134-136 100th Street, Edmonton • 484-1879

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## 1045. Help Wanted

## 1049. Help Wanted

## 1053. Help Wanted

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Full Time \*Seasonal\* Sept-Mar. \* Mo-Fri

## 1040. Careers

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PANDA TANK & Vac Truck Service an expanding oilfield trucking company in Grande Prairie requires drivers with Class 1 immediately for tank trucks. Class 3 pressure vessels, hot oilers; heavy duty mechanic and shop hand. All safety tickets required. Fax resume and drivers abstract to: [www.classifieds.see.greatwest.ca](http://www.classifieds.see.greatwest.ca)

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RNS'S REQUIRED for 20 bed acute care hospital in Alberta. Furnished housing available. Please contact Mary Proskic, Boyle Healthcare Centre, Phone 780-689-3731. Fax 780-689-3951

SALES MANAGER needed at Drumheller Valley Times. Established clients full benefits, base plus commission. Send resume to [info@valleytimes.ca](http://info@valleytimes.ca) or call 403-823-6397 for more details

SALES REPRESENTATIVE. Abbey Window Coverings seeking sales representative. Industry experience, strong communications, ability to travel throughout northern Alberta required. Email resume with salary expectation [sairab@abbeywindowcoverings.com](mailto:sairab@abbeywindowcoverings.com)

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SPORTS REPORTER. Career opportunity for growing paper in a dynamic community. Contact Neil Sutcliffe, Publisher Leduc Representative, [neil@leducbowesnet.com](mailto:neil@leducbowesnet.com) Fax 780-986-6397. Phone 780-986-2271

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TOWN of Porcupine Plain, SK invites applications for the full-time position of Town Foreman. Must have ability to perform all duties required to operate and maintain a community of 800 - 1000 people. Porcupine Plain is located in the Northeast Parkland adjacent to Greenwater Lake Provincial Park. Porcupine Plain offers such amenities as hunting, fishing, hockey, curling, golfing, swimming, snowmobiling. Check our website at [www.porcupineplain.com](http://www.porcupineplain.com). Please submit letter of application along with current resume to: Town of Porcupine Plain, Box 310, Porcupine Plain, SK, S0E 1H0. Phone 306-278-2262. Fax 306-278-3378. Email: [porcupineplain@nsatel.net](mailto:porcupineplain@nsatel.net). Closing date: Sept. 7/07.

WE NEED an editor/reporter to take charge of the newsroom at The Rosewell Eagle. You will be part of the news team for a group of provincial and national award winning newspapers. Must be able to do news and features, be an aggressive self-starter, have a vehicle and be knowledgeable in digital photography. Layout experience an asset. We offer a competitive salary with mileage allowance and an employee benefit plan. Please send your resume and work samples to: Tim Crump, Box 1150, Kindersley, SK, S0L 1S0.

CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES is looking for enthusiastic volunteers. Flexible shifts. Rewarding experience that helps saves lives. Please call 431-8740

DISTRESS LINE, Youthone.com Crisis Chat volunteers get excellent training, career-related skill development, rewarding experience and ensure those in need will have someone there to listen when life hurts. Call the Support Network 732-6648 or [www.thesupportnetwork.com](http://www.thesupportnetwork.com)

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Drivers for Meals on Wheels for routes all over city needed. Weekdays between 10am - 1pm. Call 429-2020

ESPA NEEDS VOLUNTEERS for upcoming NExpo. For more info email [volunteers@edmontonsmallpress.org](mailto:volunteers@edmontonsmallpress.org) or phone 434-9236

HELP to broadcast news nationally for the blind and print-restricted! Email: [edmonton@voiceprintcanada.com](mailto:edmonton@voiceprintcanada.com), 451-8331

HOME CARE volunteers visit isolated neighbors, go for walks, help with errands. Call Capital Health Home Care 496-1300

Love Bingo? Come Volunteer! ElderCare Edmonton is looking for bingo volunteers to help raise funds for program meals and outings. If you can spare a few hours once a month and would like to have fun call 434-4747 ext 4

Make a difference in your community...ElderCare Edmonton is looking for volunteers to help with daily activities such as crafts, card games and socializing. If you can spare a few hours each week and would like to have fun, call 434-4747 Ext 4

Other Voices seeks help with the production of its bi-annual literary and visual arts magazine. Write to [info@othervoices.ca](mailto:info@othervoices.ca)

PARKINSON'S SOCIETY OF ALBERTA needs volunteers for SuperWalk for Parkinson's 2007. September 22, (780) 482-8993.

Take advantage of this volunteer experience of a lifetime! Become a friend to a NEW Canadian and share a life changing experience. Contact Dulari at 474-8554

VOLUNTEER TUTORS needed. Can you read this? Many can't! Become a tutor and share the gift of reading. Call P.A.L.S. at 424-5514 to help change a life through literacy. Training and materials are provided.

Volunteers need your leftover Wool and extra knitting needles for our volunteers and newcomers to Canada to knit warm items for other newly arrived immigrants. Call Lucia 424-3545 ext 230

Volunteers needed! To assist new immigrants on a first time shopping trip for essentials. 2-3 hrs. Occasional/weekdays. Call Judy 424-3545 ext 249

Volunteer Needed! To help small children with homework. Begins September. 2 Evenings/week, northside Location. Call Judy 424-3545 ext 249

HIGHLY SKILLED PIANIST/ACCOMPANIST. Piano teacher/composer with great experience is available. (780) 758-4558

Volunteers Needed! To teach English to adult immigrants. Classroom or conversation circles. Flexible daytime/eve. Weekdays 3-4hrs/wk. Great teaching exp, Call Judy 424-3545 ext 249

Volunteers Needed! To teach simple Canadian recipes to newly arrived immigrants. Saturdays 11-1pm. Call Judy 424-3545 ext 249

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BEST SINGER/ WRITER GUITARIST seeks band members for rock project. Experienced, diverse, songs written, aware. Acoustic, Electric, "Viability" Phone Jason at 233-8758

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Harmonica player (21) looking to jam on rock/blues projects. Call Sean 266-5647

Highly skilled pianist/accompanist. Piano teacher/composer with great experience is available. (780) 758-4558

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Drummer wanted for Betty Machete. Rock/ Retro Rock. Serious inquiries only. [www.myspace.com/bettymachete](http://www.myspace.com/bettymachete) Kelsey 489-7194

Drummer wanted for rock band. Recording artists seek a talented and dedicated musician for original project. We have several original songs ready for recording and are one of the highest paid cover bands in the province. Must be reliable, motivated, committed to music, able to play to click track, 20-30 yrs old vocals an asset. Contact Luc at [luc@mouningwood.ca](mailto:luc@mouningwood.ca) or call (780) 991-2506

Need Bass/drums/guitars/keys/vocal etc. For progressive Christian worship startup group. Experience an asset. Contact 996-2979 or email: [Morrigs@telusplanet.net](mailto:Morrigs@telusplanet.net)

FOLK SINGER GORUK seeks like minded individual for acoustic duo...live gigs and originals...have jam space. MUSIC CAN CHANGE THE WORLD...CALL CHRIS AT 901-7055

HAVOC needs a guitarist, pro gear, experience, backing vocals and hair required. Ozzy, Van Halen, Dio, [t\\_rex\\_audio@shaw.ca](mailto:t_rex_audio@shaw.ca)

HAVOC needs a guitarist, pro gear, experience, backing vocals and hair required. Ozzy, Van Halen, Dio, [t\\_rex\\_audio@shaw.ca](mailto:t_rex_audio@shaw.ca)

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## It's Vegas, baby!

In Sin-City, if you don't get your hot babes in 30 minutes, they're free!

"MOMMY, DADDY, CAN WE PUH-lease get a hot babe to our room, puuh-lease?"

"Now Junior, what did we tell you when we decided to take our family vacation in Las Vegas? No hot babes!"

"No fair! I bet all the other kids who come to Vegas get to order hot babes to their room."

Welcome to Vegas, weirdest family vacation destination in the world.

When I decided to tag along on a photo shoot the hubbie was hired to do in Vegas, I expected what had been described to me as "Disneyland for adults" to be, well, full of adults. So I was a little taken aback by all the families strolling down the Strip while flatbed trucks with huge billboards

ed so frequently in popular media that you feel you've already been there

for an hour.

We were on a tight budget, so imagine our joy when we came across a flyer offering a two-for-one special with Sammie and Kindra for only \$39! Sammie and Kindra looked pretty hot and the flyer read "actual entertainers," so I figured there wouldn't be any surprises. We called, "Sammie" answered, and proceeded to tell me it would be \$150 an hour per girl.

"But I've got a flyer for your two-for-one special!" I gleefully announced.

"Oh, that's \$39 off per girl, so it would be \$111 per girl per hour. Oh, and we can't guarantee we'll get the girls in the picture on the flyer."

Right, so apparently gambling wasn't restricted to the casino floor. But I guess the girls in the picture could be actual entertainers and the special did involve the amount of \$39, so technically it wasn't false advertising and what guy is gonna quibble when it's 3 a.m., he's already dropped a load at the blackjack table and been benefiting heavily from the nonstop free drinks?

But if two for one isn't your cup of tea, a mere browse through one of Vegas' many multi-box corner newspaper stands and you could have your pick from flyers offering College Girls, Young Blondes, Mature Women in Their 30s (excuse me!), 40s, 50s or 60s, Barely Legal Asians, even Affordable College Girls for the budget traveler. Oh look: this one promises girls

before you ever go. But the reality left me slack-jawed. This wasn't Disneyland for adults; this is the place where America's morals come to die... and overeat, thanks to 24-hour feeding troughs—er, buffets.

And sex? Well, as long as quantity

**This wasn't Disneyland for adults; this is the place where America's morals come to die... and overeat, thanks to 24-hour feeding troughs—er, buffets.**

promising to deliver "hot babes" who "want to meet you 24/7" to be rolling by every few minutes.

Vegas is one of those iconic places, like New York or L.A., that are depicting

and not quality isn't an issue, that too is all-you-can eat. As long as your wallet is as big as your appetite. A member of our party who ordered a "hot babe" to his room dropped \$500



in 30 minutes or less or it's free. Just like ordering pizza. Only you provide the dough.

Or how about an out-on-the-town excursion like Medical School Night at Body English, where "ladies in their naughty nurse uniforms drink free champagne"? Unfortunately, I hadn't packed my naughty nurse uniform. Or a naked hula hoop contest? Or "I Cheated on My Boyfriend and All I Got Was This Lousy T-Shirt Night" at Jet?

Luckily, on our last night there, we ventured downtown to the old Strip, which appealed to my retro tastes with its sky-high neon cowboys and showgirls. Wandering through The Golden Nugget made me feel like I was in a James Bond movie. And the steak and lobster dinner at Vic & Anthony's was about the sexiest thing I experienced

in Vegas: two-inch bone-in ribeye cooked to absolute juicy perfection and a three-and-a-half pound lobster that had me drooling. We declined the \$18,000 bottle of wine, but the waiter recommended a lovely \$50 bottle that perfectly complemented our sexy feast.

Unfortunately, we didn't see the "Vegas episode" of rebel chef Anthony Bourdain's *No Reservations* until after we got home or we would have gone for some after-dinner "Ass Juice" shots at the Double Down, a divey bar off the Strip. But luckily, a local bartender recommended a wonderfully seedy local watering hole called The Griffin where there was nary a tourist in sight. It was a nice climax to an otherwise decidedly unsexy encounter with so-called Sin City.

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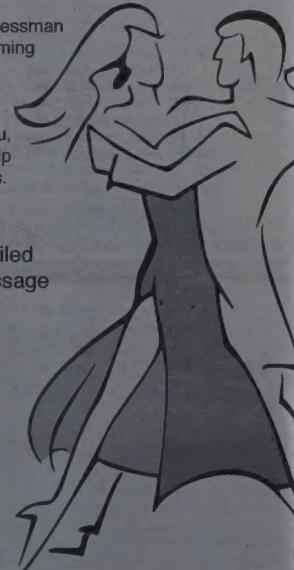
Successful young businessman (SM, 30s) seeks a charming lady for companionship.

Meet a true gentleman who will take care of you, make you laugh and help you realize your dreams.

Please leave a detailed and descriptive message

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Interests: dining/wine, movies/theatre, sports, travel

Must be: 23-33 yrs, single, slim/athletic, non-smoker, open-minded

# Help! I'm a teenaged boy trapped in Shakira's body!

This trans-identifying tomboy faces an uphill battle in his search for acceptance

I'M A HIGH-SCHOOL GIRL WITH BIG PROBLEMS. All my life I've worn boy clothes and had male friends, mainly because I'm into "male" things like videogames and geek stuff. As high school approached, Mother Nature flipped me off with DD breasts and hips that would make Shakira jealous.

I don't even identify as female. I've come to terms with the fact that my mentality doesn't match up with my vagina. But now most male clothes don't fit and my male peers don't take me seriously because of my body, even though I wear my hair short, wear no makeup, and go by a male nickname. I'm not a lesbian. I like boys. I just wish I could be one of them too. I'm too young for breast-reduction surgery or gender-reassignment counseling, but these are things I'm considering.

My parents are shaken and unsure, but loving and supportive. My best friends have no idea of the issues I'm facing. Any tips on dealing with this and trying to adjust accordingly?

Troubled Tomboy

"I'm struck by Troubled Tomboy's kick-ass confidence," says Seguin Spear, a case manager at Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services ([www.lyon-martin.org](http://www.lyon-martin.org)), a community-based nonprofit in San Francisco that provides services to women and transgender people. "While he's clearly holding his own, I'm concerned about TT getting enough understanding and space to explore his gender identity."

Spear says all transgender people need three things: "First, feeling loved, accepted, and understood. Second, getting adequate support for exploration of gender experience, identity, and expression. And third, having access to good, transgender-competent medical information and care."

Needless to say, you won't find any of that in your average American high school. We live in a culture that is, in Spear's view, "frequently hostile toward people who don't fit into artificial binary gender norms." That's putting it mildly. As I learned watching *High School Musical*—under duress—boys who bake strudels are regarded as gender outlaws in American high schools. So brace yourself for a bumpy ride if you start opening up to your friends about this stuff, TT.

But combating the isolation kids like you experience in high school was one of the reasons Al Gore teamed up with Larry Flynt to invent the Internets, a series of tubes that transports health information, YouTube videos, and pornography into our homes. "TT has access to community and support anywhere there's net access," Spear says, "and FTI International ([www.fti.org](http://www.fti.org)) is a good place to start."

But be careful out there, kiddo. There are predators lurking on the Internets, just as there are predators lurking in the halls of Congress and area churches. (Parents should be required to Google "youth pastor" before giving their teenagers permission to hang out at megachurches.) Spear and I, however, trust you'll be able to use your "geek-sharp critical-thinking skills," as Spear puts it, to avoid the creeps.

In some ways, TT, you're one lucky boy. Your parents may be shaken and unsure, but a lot of transgenders would cut off their—oops, sorry. A lot of transgenders would give their left—shit, that's a pretty poor choice of words, too. Hell, let's just say that a lot of transgenders lack in the "loving and supportive parents" department. "Many transgender and genderqueer kids face familial rejection," Spear says, "and it's great that TT doesn't have to deal with that."

As for surgery, Spear agrees that it's too early. "But it's a great time for TT to start exploring his identity with someone who isn't personally invested in TT's choices," says Spear. "Therapists specializing in gender fre-

## SAVAGE LOVE

IDAN SAVAGE

quantify offer phone sessions so trans and genderqueer people who live outside of larger cities can access gender-competent services." Therapy can be expensive, "but even a few sessions could offer some emotional backup and tools for coping with confused or threatened family and friends.

"Finally, TT, do whatever it takes to keep sane," Spear says. "Be gentle with yourself, and know there's lots of love for you out here."

I am a straight female and I've been in a relationship for two years. Is it bad to get tired of the same things all the time? I am only 20 years old and I want to live my life and not be tied down all the time with some controlling guy. He won't allow me to have friends or talk to anyone, but when I try to break up with him he cries and promises me he will change and I take him back and we go through the same thing all over again. I don't want to hurt him. I just want out of this relationship. What should I say to him? And how do I deal with the crying and broken promises? Please help!

Stuck With Him

Go ahead and hurt the controlling, manipulative piece of shit, SWH; he deserves it. He doesn't let you have friends? He doesn't want you talking to anyone? Those are the early warning signs of an abuser, sister. He's already abusing you emotionally, pummeling you with insincere tears and false promises. And the longer you stay, the greater the odds that he'll start abusing you physically. So dump the motherfucker already.

And if you can't handle the tears, SWH, don't subject yourself to them. Live together? Pack up your shit when he's at work and move the fuck out. Don't live together? Even easier. Just call him and tell him it's over, you're gone, and hang up when he starts crying.

Recently, I had the chance to reconnect with a friend from high school. After one too many drinks, she confided in me about her sexual habits, telling me she likes "soiling." I stupidly asked what it was. The answer was probably the most disgusting thing I've ever heard: "You get some poo, and then you rub it on each other's skin." Apart from this shocking admission, she is a really nice girl. She is Christian and works in a caring profession. To look at her, you would never

guess. But I don't want to see her again because I am grossed out by the mental image she gave me. My question is: is it fair to end a friendship over someone's sexual practices?

Shocked Over Soiling

Jesus loves the little children, all the little children of the world—including, ostensibly, the poop-rubbed ones who work in caring professions. But you're no one's saviour, SOS, which means you're under no obligation to

be similarly promiscuous with your affections. However, it isn't this woman's fetish that gives you grounds to end this friendship. It's her judgment and lack of consideration.

Lots of people have creepy fetishes; the only way to avoid being friends with creepy fetishists is to refrain from having friends at all. What disqualifies this woman as a friend isn't her fetish, per se, it's her willingness to burden you with unnecessary details about her sex life. For all you know, half your friends, both your parents, your boss, and a

certain advice professional are into soiling. But all the other poop fetishists in your life have the good sense and common decency not to share this information with you.

Now some fetishes are charming and/or quirky, and friends may feel comfortable sharing these with each other. But soiling and/or poop fetishes are best managed on a "need to know" basis—and the only people who need to know about your friend's soiling fetish are the people she soils, is soiled by, or hopes to soil.

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